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THE TIMES

No. 64,774

THURSDAY OCTOBER 14 1993

● Output down ● Inflation up

Double blow hits Clarke's Budget hopes

By JANET BUSH AND NICHOLAS WOOD

KENNETH Clarke yesterday came under growing pressure to cut interest rates to inject new life into the economy as a slump in factory output and a rise in inflation compounded fears that the recovery was faltering.

The figures, along with a widening trade gap and the prospect of another rise in unemployment, leave the Chancellor boxed in as he prepares to deliver his first Budget next month. He needs both to stimulate the economy and to reduce the level of government borrowing. But if he cuts interest rates, he risks stoking up inflation; if he raises taxes, he

■ The Chancellor's room for manoeuvre in next month's budget has been further reduced by the latest indications of economic difficulty

risks stifling the recovery — and he is already speaking of "blood on the floor" in his efforts to keep public spending to existing targets, even without trying to cut it further.

The financial markets are anticipating an early half-point cut in base rates, and economists believe that Mr Clarke should contemplate a full point cut or even more. Yesterday's small rise in the headline inflation rate for August — from 1.7 to 1.8 per cent — should not, according to the City, stand in the way of lower interest rates. "Why on earth wait until the Budget," Ian Shepherdson of Midland Global Markets said. "Having left the economy alone for nine months, the government must look long and hard at the weakness of the recovery and do something about it. By the end of next week, there is every chance that everything will be screaming out for base rate cuts."

Other analysts and the Institute of Directors meanwhile warned the Chancellor against big tax increases on November 30 — particularly indirect levies such as VAT which feed directly through to the inflation rate — because the economy was too fragile to cope with them.

Mr Clarke's difficulties were emphasised yesterday by figures from manufacturing industry, which the government had hoped would lead Britain out of recession and into sustainable recovery. Output fell by 0.4 per cent in August and by 0.7 per cent in the summer compared with the previous quarter. The drop, and the decline in exports reported on Monday, demonstrated how industry is struggling in the face of slumping European markets and weak demand at home.

Over the past year, in spite of the government's assertion in the spring that sterling's devaluation and lower interest rates had created conditions for an industrial boom, output has grown by only 1.2 per cent. The Central Statistical Office had predicted that it would grow by as much as 6 per cent.

The Treasury sought to put a brave face on yesterday's figures, saying that the trend in manufacturing remained healthy and that inflation was still lower than anyone could have imagined a year ago. Stephen Dorrell, financial secretary to the Treasury, insisted

that the government was still on course to deliver 3 per cent growth by the middle of next year.

For Labour, Robin Cook said: "The drop in output for both consumer and investment goods shows that neither consumers nor producers have any confidence in the recovery," while Harriet Harman, the shadow chief secretary, accused ministers of complacency.

She seized on the fact that the September inflation figure determines next April's benefit uprating and said that a 1.8 per cent increase would mean only £1 a week more for a single person on a state pension and £1.60 for a couple. But at the same time, pensioners would have to face higher heating bills as VAT was imposed on fuel. Mr Dorrell



said it was nonsense to regard low inflation as bad news for pensioners and said the VAT levy would be taken into account in the indexation of pensions for next year.

"We are on course, although I do not deny that some of the anecdotes coming out of the economy now are not as good as they were a couple of months ago," he said. "It is true that the factors are mixed. There are good elements and bad elements in the mix. But the economy is delivering a higher rate of growth than any of our G7 competitors."

The underlying inflation rate — which last month rose from 3.1 to 3.3 per cent — was on course to be within the 3.75 per cent forecast for the final quarter of the year.

City worried, page 25
Anatole Kaletsky, page 29



The Mill House at Widdford, Essex, is cut off by flood waters from the river Wid

Worse flooding feared today

By ANDREW PIERCE

THE south of Britain is experiencing some of the worst weather conditions since the great storm of October 1987 with even heavier rain and gale force winds forecast for today.

During the worst of the storms in the last 24 hours, hundreds of people had to leave their homes, rivers were on flood alert, villages were cut off, and road and rail travel was disrupted. The National Rivers Au-

thority issued red alerts, signifying serious possible flood damage in rivers in Lincolnshire, Suffolk, Surrey, Hertfordshire and the West Country. Warnings were issued in six areas the previous day.

Flooding closed more than 140 main and minor roads, with Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, Essex, East Anglia, Lincolnshire, Wiltshire and the West Country the worst affected.

The Met Office, which issued a severe weather

warning yesterday, said: "Winds could rise to gale force, as high as 60 mph, bringing fresh flooding and making driving conditions doubly hazardous. It could be even worse than yesterday."

However, the Met Office said that by tonight the worst of the storms should be over and temperatures would

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Travel, page 23
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English fan hit by gunshot as football arrests reach 700

FROM JOHN GOODBODY IN ROTTERDAM

AN ENGLISH supporter was shot in the leg and a home-made firebomb was thrown by Dutch fans yesterday as the number of arrests before the World Cup qualifying tie in Rotterdam reached a record of more than 700.

About 450 English fans were rounded up during the day under an emergency by-law passed to prevent trouble being caused by supporters without tickets for the game. More than 175 English supporters were flown home yesterday in two aircraft chartered by the Dutch government after the disorder in Amsterdam on Tuesday night. Thousands more arrived by train and ferries.

Seven hundred Dutch police using batons, dogs and vans, separated the factions as 48,000 people arrived to attend the game between England and Holland in the Feyenoord stadium. However, fighting later resumed outside the stadium, where rival supporters pelted one another with stones.

Many English supporters began drinking in the Stadhuissplein pedestrian precinct watched by their Dutch rivals. Police kept them apart.

Hans Stoop, a police spokesman, said: "At 1.15pm an English fan was shot but we did not know by whom. We did not find the weapon and the police could not see who fired the shot, but it was definitely from a firearm and came from behind a group of Dutch supporters."

Walter Dekker, a spokesman for the University hospital in the Dijkzicht area of the city, said an Englishman in his twenties had been wounded in the leg. He was not seriously hurt and he had discharged himself at 4pm. "He had a ticket for the game which he wanted to see."

In the turmoil after the

shooting, a home-made bomb, packed inside a tennis ball, was thrown from a group of Dutch supporters as they charged towards the Big Ben pub where many English were drinking. There was tremendous explosion, but neither the police nor the hospital could confirm reports that another Englishman was injured.

The incidents increased tension between the rival supporters. Rumours were rife that nailbombs had been used by the Dutch.

The by-law was signed by Wim Vermeulen, deputy mayor of Rotterdam. Mr Stoop said: "Most of those arrested



An English supporter is mauled by a police dog

had no tickets. Using this by-law we can detain them if we think they are going to do something wrong."

The total of 700 arrests was the highest for one match in the history of the England national team. Those held yesterday were kept at a marine barracks. Police said some "would face criminal charges, while those without tickets would simply be deported. Many with tickets were not to be released before kick-off."

Blacklist failure, page 2
Football, page 48

Major defends tough stance on criminals

By FRANCES GIBB AND STEWART TENDLER

JOHN Major moved swiftly last night to defend the government's hardline approach to crime and its proposals for more jails by echoing the home secretary's words: "Prison does work."

Less than 24 hours after Lord Woolf, a law lord, had lambasted the initiatives announced by Michael Howard, the home secretary, at last week's Tory conference, Mr Major said: "Michael Howard's measures are the start, not the end, of a renewed drive on crime. We need action, not words, in order to make our country safer."

Mr Major referred to Lord Woolf's idea that the public

should be fined for not protecting their property. He said: "I reject outright any proposal that would penalise the victims of crime rather than the criminal. We need to consider victims more, not less."

Senior judges were privately in sympathy yesterday with Lord Woolf's chief message that jailing more offenders was not the answer. Lord Taylor of Gosforth, the Lord Chief Justice, is unlikely to give a lead to judges for tougher sentencing.

Crime and justice, page 4
Peter Brookings
and Ben Macintyre, page 18
Woolf speech, page 42

No 10 press chief quits under fire

By NICHOLAS WOOD

GUS O'Donnell yesterday quit the other Downing Street political bosses after three gruelling years as John Major's press secretary and a 12-month struggle to fend off some of the most vitriolic media coverage ever endured by a Conservative prime minister.

Mr O'Donnell, 41, who has been the target of sniping by senior Tories demanding a more aggressive

Continued on page 2, col 3
Man in the news, page 2

Kohl attacks Britain on monetary union

FROM CHARLES BREMMER IN PARIS

THE German chancellor yesterday attacked the view of John Major that the Maastricht treaty was outmoded and that the European Community worked best as a free-trade zone among sovereign states. In a speech to the French senate, Helmut Kohl said: "An economic and monetary union is only viable if it is supported by political union."

The Community must develop a common foreign and security policy without further delay.

The German chancellor offered to act as mediator between "the American rigidity and French stiffness" to broker a compromise that

would clear the way to a deal on the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). He said he understood French difficulties, but added that "a failure for GATT would be a terrible blow for the world economy, for Europe, for Germany and for France."

France has been disappointed over the lack of follow-up to Herr Kohl's earlier promises of support.

With ratification of the treaty settled, Herr Kohl called for firm adherence to the Euro-timeline, saying Europe must stick to Maastricht timing for monetary union.

Debtors warning, page 15

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As the South of Britain braces itself for more flooding, communities make the best of a downpour



Torrential rain caused some unusual sights in southern England as communities struggled to save their homes: WPCs Sue Deacon and Joyce Winter patrol in Windsor; Shaun Noyes, 8, swims to his local shop in Chobham, Surrey

Continued from page 1
plunge in most parts of the country by the weekend.

In Windsor, Berkshire, 200 residents were preparing to spend the night in army barracks after being rescued from their homes. Elderly and disabled people were carried

from their homes as water surged 6ft deep through the streets.

Soldiers and the emergency services commandeered boats as the local authority implemented its "major disaster plan". Water and sewage, chest-high in some houses and roads, turned the south of

Windsor into a lake spanning three square miles.

A motorcyclist was killed when his machine skidded out of control on the Isle of Dogs, east London, on Tuesday night and in north London, firemen rescued three motorists trapped in their cars

when the Salmonsbrook burst its banks at Edmonton.

The NRA issued a yellow alert flood warning in Wiltshire after downpours closed roads and the Kennet and Avon canal broke its banks near Melksham. Parts of Somerset were under water and a

landslide forced trains on the Southampton to Salisbury route to be diverted 65 miles.

The torrential rain has softened the soil in the South East, prompting fears that trees may be uprooted. Sir Edward Greenwell, for the Country Landowners' Association,

said members were on alert. In Portsmouth, Philip Reed was

thrown across the room when his home was struck by lightning, and the television he was watching blew up.

The South Coast, an area more used to hosepipe bans, was braced

for fresh storms and flooding amid reports of cars floating down roads and families bailing water out of their homes. The highest rainfall in the 24 hours to 6pm yesterday was 1.98in in Cromer, Norfolk.

Forecast, page 24

NEWS IN BRIEF

Patten firms fee resolve

John Patten, the education secretary, will today give his clearest indication yet that the government intends to charge university students for tuition. In Radio 4's *Analysis* this evening, Mr Patten rules out the main alternatives for funding the expansion of higher education. He also suggests that paying for courses may increase students' motivation. Mr Patten signals that the resumption of university expansion in 1996 cannot all be paid for from taxation.

EC drive by Sinn Fein

Sinn Fein is to open an office in Brussels in an effort to mobilise European Community support for its cause. It called on the EC yesterday to press the government to become involved in the peace process in Northern Ireland after talks between Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein, and John Hume MP, the leader of the SDLP.

BT staff call strike vote

BT's 9,000 operators are to vote on industrial action in a dispute over allowance payments. The ballot was agreed at a special conference of the Union of Communication Workers yesterday. The dispute centres on BT's proposals to reduce extra payments for Sunday shifts to pay evening allowances from 10pm instead of 8pm.

Couple's second chance

A couple whom social workers said were too far to foster children have been allowed to care for deprived youngsters by Barnardo's charity. Yvonne and Tony Edwards, who weigh 48 stone between them, are planning a legal challenge to overturn South Glamorgan County Council's ruling preventing them from fostering.

Drug yacht diver dies

A commercial diver has died while working on the wreck of the yacht *Ambrosia* which sank last week with cannabis worth £20 million on board, police said last night. One man, a Belgian, has appeared in court at Peterhead, Grampian, charged in connection with the yacht's cargo. Three crew members were rescued from a lifeboat last week.

Fans' blacklist has only six offenders

By EDWARD GORMAN
IN LONDON
AND JOHN GOODBODY
IN ROTTERDAM

■ The fact that only six troublemakers are banned from overseas games prompted calls for a review of anti-hooligan legislation

ONLY six convicted football hooligans are on the blacklist for travelling abroad, it emerged yesterday, prompting calls from MPs of all parties for a review of anti-hooligan legislation.

Figures released by the football unit of the National Criminal Intelligence Service showed since new legislation came into force in 1989, and there are now only six people against whom orders are still in place.

The disclosure came as American police in Amsterdam made clear they will welcome visiting English football supporters as "guests" for the 1994 World Cup finals, but will react strongly if there is any violence similar to that in The Netherlands this week.

The restriction orders, introduced under the 1989 Football Spectators Act, were supposed to help to prevent the type of violence which has taken place in Holland. They can be imposed by a judge as part of sentencing after conviction for a football-related offence and require an individual to report to a police station on the day of a nominated foreign match.

At the time of their introduction David Waddington, the then home secretary, said he was confident they would be

effective both in stopping hooligans attending foreign matches and deterring others from getting involved.

But Menzies Campbell, the Liberal Democrat spokesman on sport, said yesterday it was clear the new law was not being used properly. He found it extraordinary that so few orders had been issued. He added that EC sports ministers should quickly agree a protocol ensuring that anyone who is arrested and against whom there is sufficient evidence of a football-related offence is prosecuted.

Harry Greenway, Tory MP for Ealing North, said it was clear the act should be reviewed. "The problem is that people don't seem to get prosecuted. They round them up in a country where they are said to have been causing trouble, and then put them on a plane or boat and that's the end of it. If prosecutions aren't being achieved, then you can't trigger the act."

The Home Office defended the new system, pointing out that it had only been in effective working order since April 1990 and, as yet, reciprocal arrangements were only in place with Italy and Sweden. Negotiations are under way

with the United States. A spokesman said: "We can't compel the courts to take a certain action. The power exists - it's not the fault of the mechanism. The mechanism is there."

Despite the violence in Holland, US policemen who are there on a fact-finding mission, said they "expected no particular problems" with hooliganism because of the training given to their officers in civil disorder.

Mike McCoy, deputy chief of the Orlando police department, emphasised that all supporters, including the English, would be welcomed as guests. "However, when a guest starts abusing you or your furniture you ask him to leave. That would be our policy."

Barry King, the area commander of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's department, which policed the 1992 riots when 58 people died, said that if faced by similar widespread unrest to what occurred in Amsterdam on Tuesday night the police would "very possibly" use tear gas or a red pepper spray, which English supporters have not recently encountered in street fighting.

700 arrested, page 1

Early vote on women priests

By SHEILA GUNN
AND RUTH GLEDHILL

THE ordination of women priests in the Church of England will be debated in Parliament in the next few weeks.

Unless opponents win the right for a judicial review next week, the legislation will be rushed through Parliament before the end of the session in early November.

If approved, the first women priests are expected to be ordained next spring. The measure looks certain to be sanctioned by both Houses despite deep reservations by many traditionalist MPs and peers.

A half-day debate in the Commons has been pencilled in for October 25, with a similar debate in the Lords the following week.

The only chance for opponents of women priests to defeat the legislation is if few of the MPs who support it turn out for the debate.

A total of 1,200 women are waiting to become priests with dioceses already vying to become the first to ordain them. The measure could be delayed if the Church Society, an evangelical body, succeeds in its attempt to obtain a judicial review of the decision by Parliament's ecclesiastical committee in favour of legislation to ordain women priests.

Rain turns town into a swamp

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

A DELUGE which lasted 24 hours left huge areas of East Anglia resembling a biblical disaster yesterday. At the epicentre of the swamp was the Suffolk market town of Halesworth, where more than 4.5in of rain turned the river Blyth into a raging torrent.

Flood water in the town rose over 3ft after the stream burst its banks, marooning residents and closing schools. Emergency services were stretched as people were rescued by boat and shopkeepers fought a fruitless battle with sandbags to keep the water at bay.

At the White Hart pub in the high street, where customers were forced to spend the night, Barry Howes, the publican, said: "I felt like King Canute; the water just kept on coming. But we managed to stay open thanks to the diligence of the staff."

Opposite the pub, the torrent lifted an 8ft walk-in freezer off the floor at Nunn's Bakery, which backs on to the river, after nearly 4ft of water poured into the building in less than 30 minutes. Lorraine Coe, 37, who works in the bakery, said: "It actually started trickling in through the walls, then it poured through like a waterfall. The bakery area filled up with water unbelievably quickly."

"That's what frightened me. In no time it was up to my waist. The place is in a terrible mess with bits and pieces lying everywhere. We're certainly not baking today."

The Edgar Sewar primary school and Halesworth middle school were closed. Emma Farrow, 10, said: "It's absolutely smashing being off school, much more fun than doing lessons. I love it. I just wish it would stop raining."

A number of children were brought home from school on Tuesday by tractor and trailer. Pupils attending the secondary school in nearby Bungay were forced to spend the night with friends there after Halesworth was cut off.

Rosslyn Hall, 59, was among several people rescued by boat from homes overlooking the river. Ms Hall, a process worker who lives in a first-floor flat, said: "A dinghy came in through the back door and drew up to the stairs to take me off. A policeman advised me not to stay."

"Without electricity and not knowing how much more the water would rise, I decided she was quite right and spent the night with my sister. I've never seen water like it. The only things enjoying it all are the ducks."

John Rogers, 73, whose garden borders the river, knew it was time to leave when floodwater covered the top of the 3ft sundial yards from his back door.

Warnings issued, page 1

Leading article, page 19

Press chief quits No 10 after heavy criticism

Continued from page 1
and Machiavellian approach, is to be replaced by Christopher Meyer, 49, a senior official at the British embassy in Washington and a former head of the Foreign Office news department.

But the fact that his successor is another Whitehall insider and not a public relations whizzkid suggests a victory for the civil service machine over the politicians. The timing of the announcement, shortly after Mr Major's successful speech at the Tory conference, suggests that Mr O'Donnell has been looking for an opportunity to depart without attracting gibes of deserting his boss in his hour of need.

Mr O'Donnell, a career economist, replaced Sir Bernard Ingham, a career journalist, as the prime minister's press secretary after Margaret Thatcher's fall in the autumn of 1990. A good-humoured and tolerant man, who gave the impression that he was happier with figures than the machinations of press manipulation, he never rivalled Sir Bernard's notoriety. Senior Tories have blamed him for Mr Major's poor press, although given the government's difficulties many observers believe that not even Sir Bernard could have turned the tide.

Mr O'Donnell, who will move from his £50,000-a-year post at the end of January, will head the Treasury's monetary group, which deals with the critical matters of interest rates and exchange rates.

Downing Street officials denied that his departure was part of a wider shake-up of Mr Major's private office.

Foreign Office high-flyer who thrives on tension

By MICHAEL BINYON
DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

CHRIS Meyer, 49, the prime minister's new spokesman, is generally held to have been one of the best Foreign Office spokesmen when he held the post under Sir Geoffrey Howe from 1984 to 1988.

Mr Meyer, quick, always well-briefed and adept at putting across the official line while giving valuable insights into the government's background thinking, was spokesman during one of the most difficult periods at the Foreign Office, when there was a lot of tension with Downing Street.

He established a strong partnership with Sir Bernard Ingham, Margaret Thatcher's spokesman, and the two were a formidable double act at various European Community summits: one bluff and

hectoring, the other suave and emollient.

Like his predecessor Gus O'Donnell, Mr Meyer moves to Downing Street directly from Washington, where he was effectively a deputy ambassador in Britain's largest embassy. He served from 1982 to 1984 as head of chancery in Moscow. As a fluent Russian speaker, it was expected that he would be a future ambassador there.

His career followed the classic course of a Foreign Office high-flyer, including a post in Brussels at the representation to the European Community.

Mr Meyer's availability to journalists pre-dated the present government's commitment to openness and won

him many friends in the press. He was still able to cover things up where necessary, like the time Sir Geoffrey lost his trousers on a train - something he made much of in his farewell speech.

He was educated at Lancing College, Sussex, and Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he read history. Mr Meyer also studied at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies in Bologna and spent a year on sabbatical at Harvard in 1988.

His father, a flight lieutenant, was killed in the war; the father of his wife, Françoise, is Air Commodore Sir Archibald Winskill. He has two sons and one stepson.

Mr Meyer is famously a man with a zest for hard work and fun and a smart dresser, with a taste for red socks and colourful scarves.

Lilley fires welfare broadside

By NICHOLAS WOOD
CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

PETER Lilley yesterday fired another shot in his battle to win public backing for curbs on the welfare state, saying that social security spending was being squeezed throughout the Western world.

The social security secretary, who is involved in a long-term review of welfare benefits, published a report detailing the measures on the Continent and in industrialised countries elsewhere to contain spiralling costs.

"EC countries in particular face tough decisions, as they are among the world's highest spenders," he said. "In the

UK, social protection spending is approaching the average of the EC, and is well ahead of that of the US and Japan and increasing faster than national income."

"The Netherlands is reducing benefits, France is raising its pension age, and Germany is proposing to reduce unemployment benefits."

"Others countries are taking more stringent action. Australia, Canada and New Zealand are moving from universal to targeted family benefits. Sweden, long heralded as a model for welfare states, is having to cut benefits radically."

Expressed as a proportion of gross domestic product, social protection expenditure

in the UK, chiefly health and social security spending, was 23 per cent in 1990, the eighth highest among the 12 EC states and below the average of 26 per cent.

Last night Donald Dewar, Labour's spokesman on social security, dismissed the report as a "hard sell for the hard right". He said that Mr Lilley's gloss on statistics looked suspiciously like a softening-up exercise to help swing public opinion.

"The figures are very odd," he said. "Social protection expenditure includes national health service costs. Even so, the UK percentage of gross domestic product at 23 per cent is below the average of 26 per cent."

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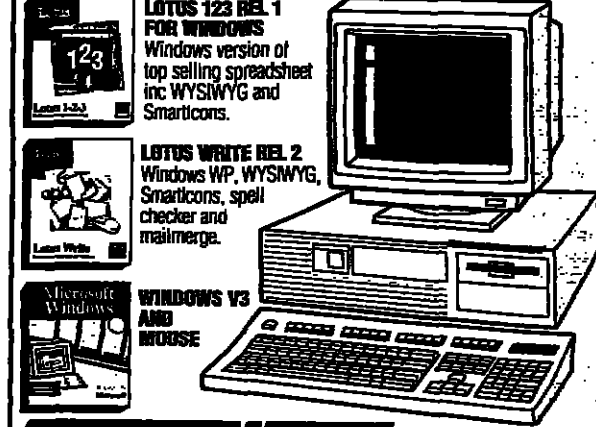
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Family doctor is battered to death outside her flat

By IAN MURRAY

A DOCTOR was battered to death outside her flat after driving home early yesterday. Police have so far been unable to establish a motive.

The body of Dr Ann Mead, 35, was found by a passer-by on the pavement a few yards from the entrance to the first-floor flat in Camberwell, southeast London. Because of the savagery of the attack and the amount of blood on the ground, cars and a wall, police believe the attacker will have tried to clean or dispose of his clothes.

The passer-by alerted a neighbour, Edna Stanton, 60, who lived in the flat below the doctor's. Police were called at 2.25am and searched the area, near the Maudsley Hospital on Denmark Hill.

Detectives were last night interviewing a man who said that he saw a disturbance on the doorstep of the flat in the small hours. Derek Coughlin said that he saw someone standing outside the three-storey Georgian building and heard angry shouting about 1am.

A post-mortem examination at Greenwich mortuary found that Dr Mead died from extensive head injuries after being beaten with a weapon or battered against a hard surface such as a wall. Nothing appeared to have been stolen

and there were no signs of sexual assault.

It was not immediately known how long Dr Mead had been lying on the pavement before her body was discovered.

Scotland Yard said that she may have been attacked shortly after parking her red Ford Fiesta, although it did not know when she had driven home or where she had been. Police appealed for anyone who had noticed anything suspicious to contact them.

Last night, detectives were examining the flat while a uniformed officer stood guard at the front door.

A neighbour said Dr Mead was a private person who had lived in the road for about a year.

"I knew her quite well. She was quiet, affable, well-presented and attractive."

"I knew she was a GP in Herne Hill and presumably looked forward to coming home to this tranquil and calm little flat. I know she had a boy friend, but I never met him. This is a great shock to us."

James Dove, 43, a postman, said: "I have heard that she was attacked with either a machete or a club. Whoever did this must be covered all over in blood."

He said that when he last saw Dr Mead she had seemed

normal and happy. "She was very, very pretty. It's just a terrible shock."

Dr Mead, who was single, qualified in 1980 and trained at Guy's Hospital, London. Since January of last year she had been one of four partners in a general practice at Herne Hill, southeast London.

Colleagues and patients at the surgery where Dr Mead worked expressed their shock over her death.

Dr Gerard Dickinson, the senior partner, said: "Her sudden death has shocked us all. We looked on her as one of our family at the surgery and we will miss her a great deal."

A receptionist said Dr Mead was "a lovely woman and a much respected doctor". A patient leaving the surgery said: "All I can say is that she was a terrific doctor and a lovely lady, and I think it is going to be very hard for people to face the fact that she will not be with us any more."

The victim's brother, David Mead, said her family was deeply shocked. "I would ask anybody who knows anything about what happened to contact police."

An incident room has been set up at Peckham police station under Det Supt Ian Crampton to co-ordinate the murder hunt (telephone number 071-279 6159).



A model displaying the French designer Courreges' transparent raincoat, left, and jersey body at the 1994 spring-summer show in Paris yesterday. The show ended with the actress Sharon Stone, right, modelling a Valentino wedding gown with cage skirt and high heels. Valentino said of Stone: "She loves clothes and shows no hesitation in participating in ironic competition with the most beautiful models"

A sonata for two can aid your IQ

By NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

LISTENING to Mozart can significantly increase your intelligence, researchers in America claim. Unfortunately, the effect is fleeting — lasting only about 15 minutes.

Dr Frances Rauscher and two colleagues from the University of California at Irvine reported the findings in this week's issue of *Nature*. They asked 36 college students to undergo standard psychological tests after listening to a tape of Mozart's sonata for two pianos in D major, K488.

They found that the students did better after listening to the music than they did after hearing a two-minute tape containing instructions designed to make them relax, or ten minutes of silence. Translated into IQ scores, the average post-Mozart score was 119, against 111 for the relaxation tape and 110 for silence.

Researchers had mea-

sured the pulse rates of students before and after they listened to the tapes to eliminate the most obvious explanation that the music had simply stimulated their physical responses to a higher state. No effect was found, suggesting that the effect of the music was mental rather than physical.

They could offer no explanation for the finding, but said that there has long been a belief that people who are interested in music tend to perform better at intellectually demanding tasks.

Researchers believe that the beneficial effect depends on the complexity of the music being played and intend to try other compositions and musical styles to prove the point.

They also intend further tests to see if listening for longer periods produces even greater effects, and to measure how quickly the effect disappears.

Student's friend tells of rape call

By NICHOLAS WATT

A MAN accused of raping a fellow student after a college Christmas party admitted the attack to a friend of the alleged victim, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Austen Donnellan, 21, was so anxious about the night he spent with the woman that he called Rachel O'Toole, who lived opposite her in their hall of residence, two days later. Ms O'Toole told the court: "I picked up the phone and he said: 'It's Austen, don't hang up.' He said that after he left the room he realised as he was walking down the corridor that that was rape."

She told Mr Donnellan that she had seen the alleged victim and that she was frightened of him. "I said to him that she didn't want to see him. He said he was upset, too. I said he should be."

Mr Donnellan, who was reading history at King's College London at the time, denies raping the woman as she lay drunk in her room after the party. He has claimed that she

undressed in the room and he asked her if she was sure before having sex.

Ms O'Toole said that she went to the alleged victim's room after the party. Mr Donnellan, who had been due to spend the night in the room, answered the door. "As far as I could remember he had his jeans on and I don't think he had a T-shirt on," Ms O'Toole said. "She wasn't wearing anything."

The woman looked so ill that Ms O'Toole tied back her hair and placed her waste bin by the bed in case she vomited. "She was mumbling and was pointing to Austen and saying he was horrible. She was still very drunk."

Ms O'Toole was woken between 4.30 and 5am when the woman knocked on her door. "She seemed very distressed. She was saying, 'I can't believe he did that.' She had woken up and found that Austen was having sex with her."

The trial continues today.

Victim of schoolboy bullies hanged himself

A BOY aged 12 was found hanged with his brother's school tie after becoming the victim of playground bullies.

Stephen Woodhall, of Smethwick, Birmingham, was discovered by his seven-year-old sister Emma hanging from the banisters of his home after a fight with another pupil at his school.

An inquest in Birmingham was told yesterday how Stephen had been menaced by demands to hand over his tuckshop money. Ken Woodhall, 42, his

father, complained three times to the headmaster of Shireland High School, Smethwick, which Stephen had begun attending six months before his death in March this year, and a boy was eventually expelled. Stephen had pleaded with his parents to let him attend a different school saying that bullies had told him: "Bring us some money every day or we will punch your head in."

Mr Woodhall, unemployed, who is separated from Stephen's mother Chris-

tine, said his son wanted to go to a Catholic school farther away. "But because I had three other children I wanted him to go somewhere nearer."

Peter Turner, the coroner, said: "There is no evidence to suggest that he had reached a level of despair at school which meant he wanted to kill himself. The level of bullying was limited and I am pretty certain it had been rooted out months before his death."

He recorded a verdict of misadventure.

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Actress carries scars of mugging

By ADAM FRESKO

AN ACTRESS was scarred after a mugger slammed a car door on her head, splitting open her skull, a court was told yesterday.

Catherine Gielgud-Killick, 38, who is believed to be Sir John Gielgud's great niece, had parked her car in Ladbrooke Grove, west London, in April when she noticed the boot had popped open. As she walked back to the driver's door, she saw Anthony James and another man run towards her, shouting, the jury was told.

Mark Gadsden, for the prosecution, told Knightsbridge Crown Court: "The defendant made a grab for her shoulder bag. She screamed and pulled the bag back from him and got into the driver's seat. He then kicked out with considerable force, trapping Mrs Killick's head between the bodywork of the car and the door. The metal part of the door smashed into her forehead."

"She thought she was knocked out momentarily and when she came round she looked in the mirror and saw her forehead was split open to the bone. Her nose was also split open on the right side."

James, 28, of Ladbrooke Grove, was picked up by police after Mrs Killick gave them a description. He admitted unlawful wounding but denied causing Mrs Killick grievous bodily harm with intent. His pleas were accepted by the prosecution and he was remanded in custody by Judge Parker QC, for pre-

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Woolf tears into the Tories' about-face on law and order

people worse, with figures

When a home becomes a fortress

The latest Home Office guidelines on preventing break-ins are illustrated in the graphic, above. Aggrieved policy holders can take their cases to the Insurance Ombudsman Bureau.

The dangers of flirting with such an idea was seen immediately when a government minister queried whether Labour's policy was to legalise soft drugs.

in racial awareness and Lord Justice Farquharson, who chairs the new Criminal Justice Consultative Council.

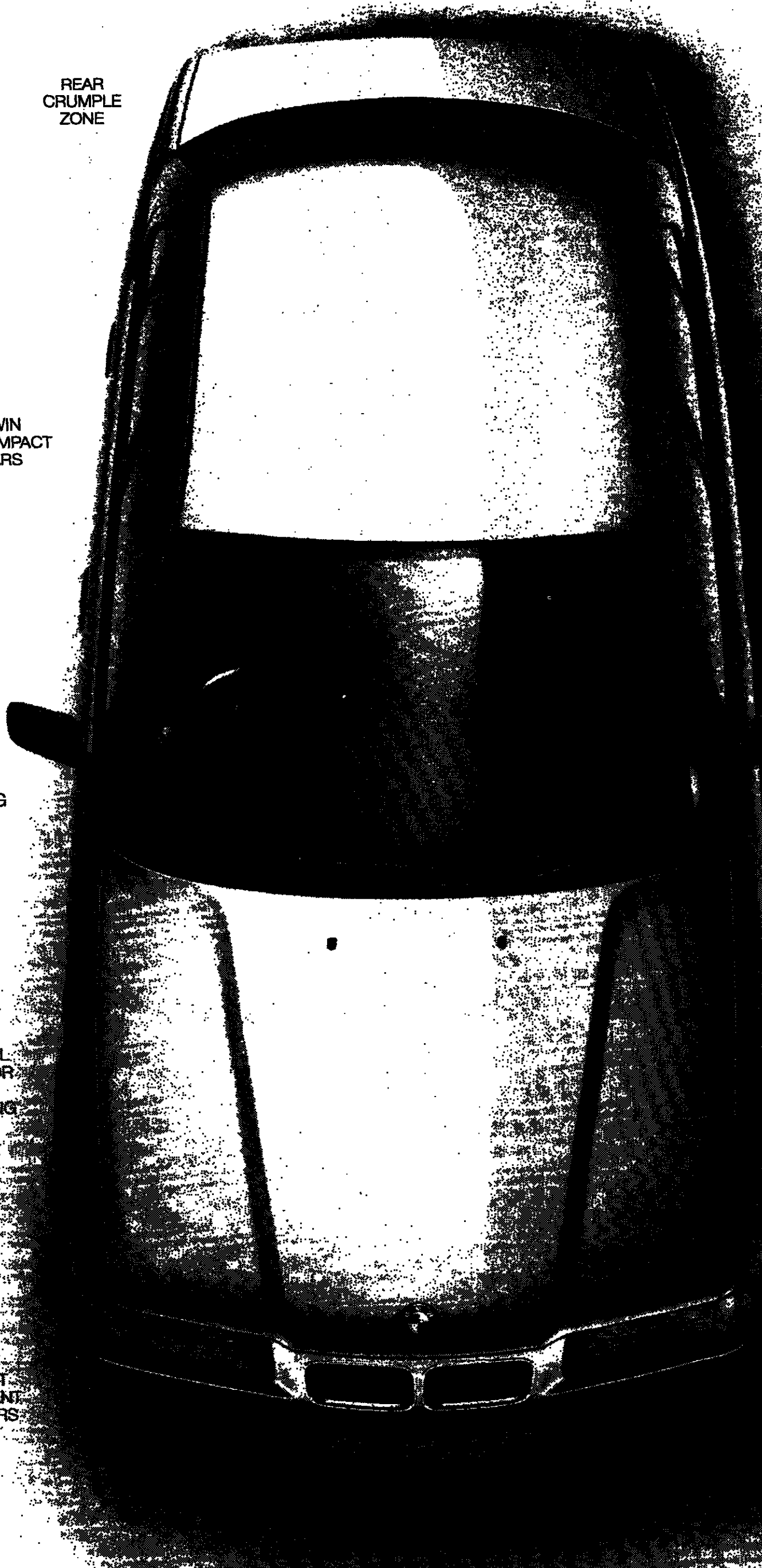
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After the debate, Mr Condon said he shared Sir Patrick's broad ambitions for changing the police. There was a difference over the method of delivery, and he said he would be disappointed if there were not a rethink about some of the recommendations for junior officers.

He pointed to the extreme case of a 16-year-old who was identified in 1989 as a persistent offender, and had spent

To help thwart the criminal, motorists are advised to fit a manufacturer-approved alarm or engine immobiliser; lock valuables out of sight or take them with you; if possible, remove the portable telephone; fit a coded radio or one with removable displays; park in a secure public car park and lock the car in the garage at home.

CRIMINAL RECORD OF A 16 YEAR OLD		
Date	Arrested For	Disposition
Dec 89	Thrift	Charged and bailed to court
May 90	Public Order Act	Action by prosecutor
May 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Jun 90	Thrift from car	Charged and bailed to court
Jun 90	Going equipped for theft	No proceeds in possession
Jun 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Jul 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Aug 90	Attempted burglary	No proceedings
Aug 90	Fail to appear warrant	Charged for court
Aug 90	Burglary	No proceedings
Aug 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Aug 90	Thrift	Charged and bailed to court
Aug 90	Taking car	Taken into consideration
Aug 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Aug 90	Burglary	No proceedings
Aug 90	Taking car	Taken into consideration
Oct 90	Burglary	Charged and bailed to court
Oct 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Oct 90	Burglary	Charged and bailed to court
Oct 90	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Oct 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Oct 90	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Oct 90	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Oct 90	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Nov 90	Breach of bail	Taken into consideration
Nov 90	Found on premises	Detained for court
Nov 90	Attempted burglary	Taken into consideration
Nov 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Nov 90	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Nov 90	Burglary	Charge and detained for court
Nov 90	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Nov 90	Taking car	Taken into consideration
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Dec 90	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Dec 90	Public Order Act	Returned to care
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Dec 90	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Dec 90	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Jan 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Jan 91	Attempted burglary	Charged and bailed to court
Jan 91	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Jan 91	Failure of bail	Detained for court
Jan 91	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Jan 91	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Jan 91	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Feb 91	Burglary	Taken into consideration
Feb 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Attempted burglary	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Feb 91	Jump burglary	No proceedings
Feb 91	Car crime	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Car crime	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Car crime	Charged and detained for court
Feb 91	Jump burglary	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Burglary	Detained for court
Mar 91	Breach for bail	Detained for court
Mar 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Taken into consideration
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Mar 91	Burglary	No proceedings
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and bailed to court
Mar 91	Burglary	No proceedings
Mar 91	Thrift	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Mar 91	Taking car	Taken into consideration
Jul 91	Burglary & taking car	Taken into consideration
Jul 91	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Aug 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Assault	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Taking car	Charged and bailed for court
Aug 91	Ad on theft	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Breach of bail	Detained for court
Aug 91	An burglary	Charged and detained for court
Aug 91	Use of safety	Returned to care
Nov 91	Taking car	Charged and detained for court
Nov 91	Ad burglary	Charged and bailed to court
Nov 91	Breach of curfew	Charged and detained for court
Jan 92	Going equipped	(severe accompaniment)
Jan 92	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Jan 92	Burglary	Charged and detained for court
Jan 92	Burglary	Charged and bailed to court
Jan 92	Taking car	Charged and detained for court



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The day an eastern power fight ended in London killings

By BILL FROST

THE self-styled head of state of a former Soviet region was ruthlessly executed with his younger brother by their trade adviser, an Old Bailey jury was told yesterday.

Ruslan Ousiev, 38, "prime minister" of the fledgling state of Chechnya, was shot three times in the head at his luxury flat off Baker Street in central London eight months ago. His brother Nazarbek, 20, died a day later, murdered "without a vestige of human feeling".

The motive behind the double execution was hard to fathom, John Hilton QC, for the prosecution, told the court. "In relation to Ruslan, the older brother, it may have been part greed, but the origins probably lie in the murky waters of eastern European political intrigue and power struggles." The Crown said that the man who allegedly murdered the brothers at their flat, Gagik Ter-Ogrannyan, 33, had been

employed as their trade adviser.

The jury was told that Mkrtych Martirosian, 30, had also been charged in connection with the murder plot. However, he had hanged himself while on remand in Belmarsh prison.

Mr Ter-Ogrannyan, who lives in Chiswick, west London, denies murder in February this year.

Mr Hilton said Ruslan Ousiev was in Britain legitimately to buy passports, identity cards and currency for Chechnya. He had access to large sums of money from his country's oil revenues. He frequently flaunted his wealth in restaurants, once giving £2,000 in tips to waiters. He also spent heavily on escort agency girls. Ruslan was joined in London by his brother, who wanted to learn English.

The jury was told there were rows about money between Ruslan Ousiev and the defen-

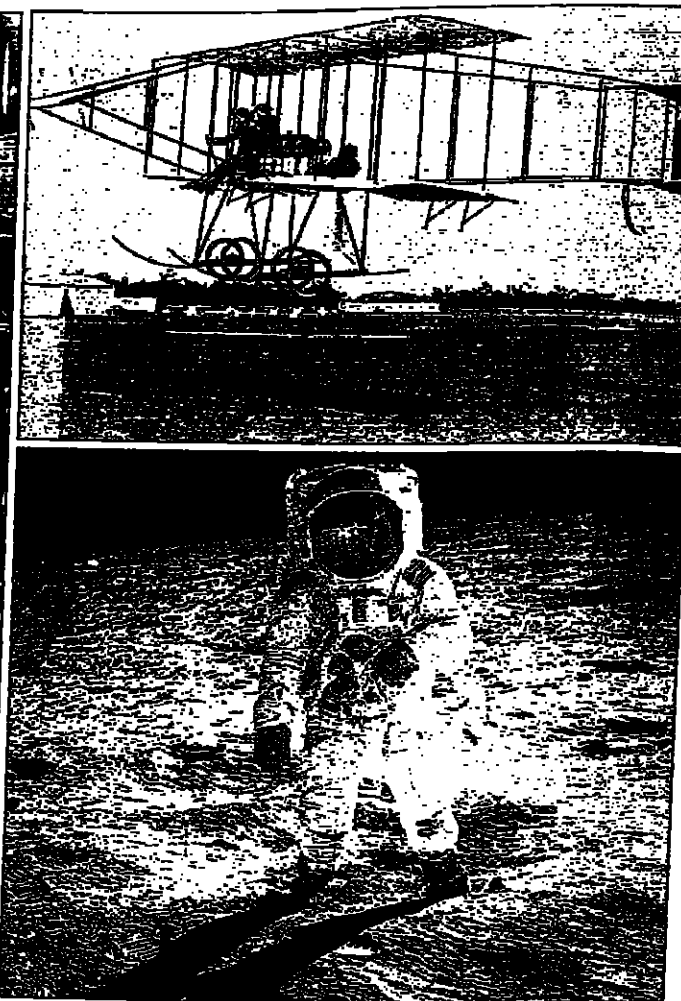
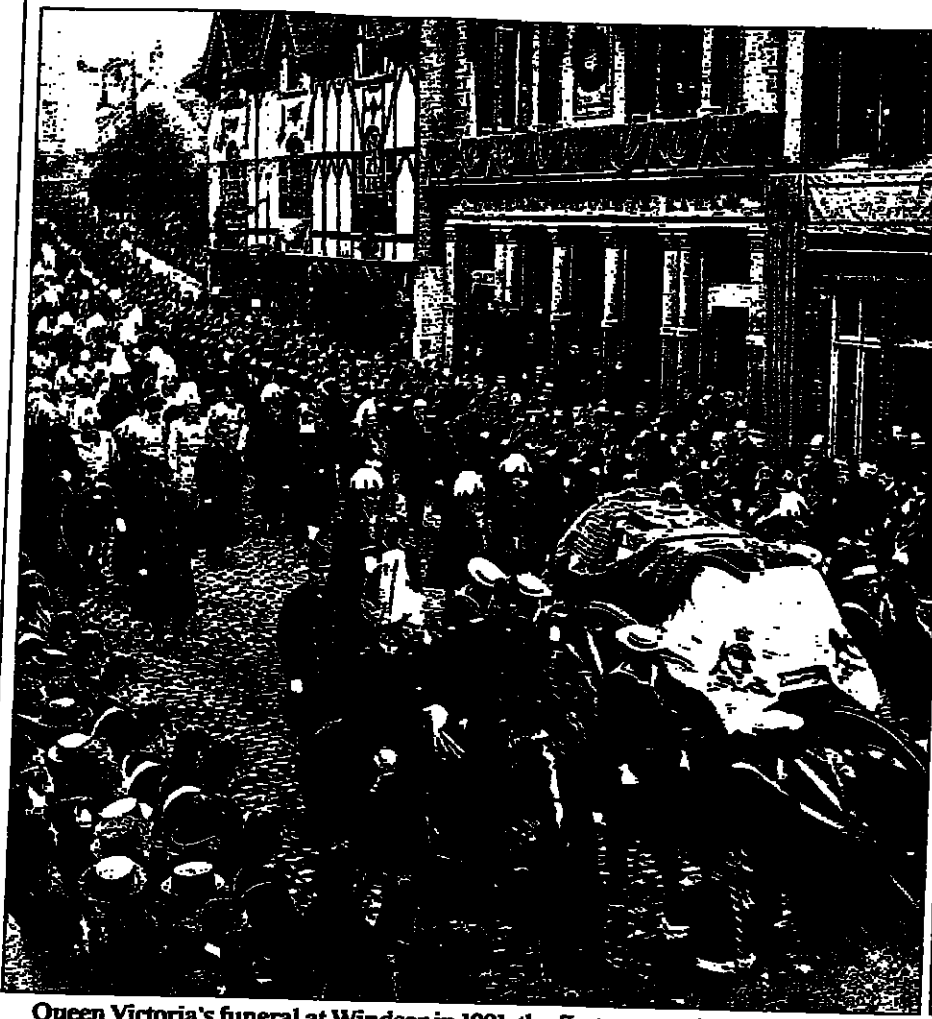
dant. The housekeeper heard Mr Ter-Ogrannyan being accused of stealing £20,000.

The Crown said Mr Ter-Ogrannyan and Mr Martirosian spent £1,000 on a large fridge but were more interested in the packaging, which was used to wrap up the body of Ruslan. The defendant hired two men to help move the body to a house in Harrow, northwest London, telling them the package contained an antique statue, said Mr Hilton. But the pair became suspicious of the "pungent smell of rotting food" coming from the carton and told a retired policeman who passed on their fears to detectives.

When officers opened the package, they found Ruslan's body mummified in masking tape. He had been blindfolded and earplugs put into each ear. Nazarbek was shot three times in the side of the head as he slept, Mr Hilton said.

The trial continues today.

Original footage shows 20th century in series of film bites



Queen Victoria's funeral at Windsor in 1901, the first powered flight by the Wright brothers in 1903 and Neil Armstrong on the Moon in 1969

All our yesterdays in 3-minute epics

By ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

FILM and television footage from British Pathe News and the BBC's news archives is to be used to make a 65-part BBC series on the history of the 20th century. Each programme in the series will last for three minutes.

The programmes have been designed as "bites" to provide a short but authoritative look at the news events that have shaped the past 100 years.

John Humphrys will narrate the series. *A Day That Shook the World*, which will open with some of the oldest archive footage in existence, showing Queen Victoria's funeral on February 2, 1901. The final episode will deal with the current difficulties surrounding the royal family.

Another programme will feature the first powered flight, on December 17, 1903, by the Americans Wilbur and Orville Wright in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. A later episode will show the moment on July 21, 1969, when Neil Armstrong became the first man to set foot on the Moon.

The series has been devised to give channel controllers the ultimate scheduling flexibility — episodes can be slipped between programmes whenever there is an appropriate gap. It is a co-production between BBC Enterprises International, BBC Library

Sales, British Pathe News and ACE Editing. It will be screened from next summer.

British Pathe was a pioneer in the production of news films. The company produced two news reels a week for distribution in cinemas throughout the country between 1919 and 1970.

The series is produced and written by Gordon Carr, a former BBC producer. It went on sale this week at the Mipcom '93 international television festival in Cannes and has already been sold to 12 overseas broadcasters.

The series is a precursor to the 26-part *People's Century*, produced by the BBC and the American broadcaster WGBH. That series, costing £10 million, is unlikely to be ready before 1995.

Leading Hollywood directors and producers have been recruited by the American Turner Productions to make a rival series, *Century*. Francis Ford Coppola, David Puttnam, Philip Kaufman, Ron Shelton, Jeremiah Chechik, Paul Verhoeven and Paul Schröder have agreed to participate in the series, which will comprise ten one-hour programmes. It will be completed by 1996.

Thatcher series, page 11
Television, page 47

Homeless challenge by single mother

A SINGLE mother who became homeless when her four children badly damaged the family's rented house was given permission at the High Court yesterday to try to make her council rehouse her.

Julie Williams and the children, who are under nine and have different fathers, are in bed and breakfast accommodation at Strood, Kent, paid for by the state.

She is challenging a decision by Rochester upon Medway City Council that she deliberately made herself homeless by failing to control her children, who damaged furniture and broke doors and windows at a house in Chatham.

Ms Williams moved into the bed and breakfast accommodation while the council repaired structural problems at the privately rented house. When the repairs were complete, the landlord refused to let her back.

The council's decision that Ms Williams made herself homeless means it is not required to rehouse her unless told to by the High Court. Mr Justice Laws ordered the council to continue housing the family until the case was heard in full later this year. He granted Miss Williams leave to challenge the council on the ground that she did not realise it had decided she deliberately made herself homeless through lack of control over the children.

But the judge said that the grounds for leave were tenuous and he gave a warning that as far as the law was concerned, the fact that she could not control her children was a deliberate act or omission.

Tenants are offered swap to mortgage

By RACHEL KELLY, PROPERTY CORRESPONDENT

MORE than a million council and housing association tenants could buy their own home under a new government "rent-to-mortgage" scheme unveiled yesterday.

Sir George Young, the housing minister, said the scheme gave tenants the opportunity to buy their homes at a discount through a mortgage costing no more than their rent. It would not involve any increase in outgoings for people who wanted to graduate from tenancy to ownership, he said.

"The tenant can buy his home by paying just part of the right-to-buy price at the start, and would not have to pay off the rest of the price of his home until later. The mortgage repayments will be similar to rent payments to begin with."

The scheme was attacked by housing charities, who were worried that low-income families could be persuaded to buy homes for which they could not maintain payments.

Sheila McKee, director of Shelter, said: "With one in 12 mortgages in arrears and a third of a million in arrears of six months or more, too many people have already been encouraged to buy their council houses without realising the full costs of home ownership."

Labour claimed that the rent-to-mortgage scheme was missing the target. John Battle, the shadow housing minister, said it would do nothing to help thousands of council leaseholders "who are effectively trapped in homes they cannot sell and cannot afford to renovate".

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Cheers as British challenger avoids a whitewash

Short ends seven-year famine

BY RAYMOND KEENE
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

AFTER seven years without a win against the world champion, Garry Kasparov, Nigel Short finally achieved his ambition in game 16 of *The Times* World Chess Championship in London's Savoy Theatre on Tuesday night. The audience erupted in wild cheering when Kasparov turned over his king. Requests for tickets for today's game have swamped the Savoy box office.

Short has now escaped from the danger that he would not win a single game in this championship. Earlier grandmasters, contenders and champions who have suffered this fate at the highest level include Frank Marshall, David Janowsky and Dr Siebert Tarrasch. All lost matches against Emanuel Lasker without winning a single game.

Lasker himself shed his world title to Capablanca in 1921, suffering the identical ignominy of failing to inflict a single defeat. Lasker was the last player to go through a world championship match without winning a game. White: Nigel Short. Black: Garry Kasparov. Sicilian Defence.

1 e4 c5
2 Nf3 d6
3 Bc4 g6
4 Nd4 Nf6
5 Nc3 a6
6 Bc4 e6
7 Bb3 b5
Tried for the first time in the match.

8 O-O Be7
9 Qf3 Qc7
10 Qg3
10 e5 is met by 10... Bb7.
11 Nc6 Qxc6
12 Re1 Bb7
13 a3
A useful precaution, though not strictly necessary as yet.

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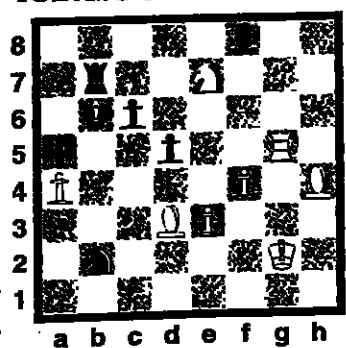
On your Checkmate Card there are 20 letter-number combinations — g6, h2, a5 and so on. These represent the positions on a standard chess board. Compare the positions on your Checkmate Card against those on Today's Chess Board (right). If a combination on your card matches a chess piece on the Checkmate Chess Board mark off that piece in the Checkmate Table.

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□ HOW TO CLAIM: If you mark off all the pieces in the Checkmate Table you must claim your prize on the same day by phoning the Checkmate claims line 091-667 0629 between 10am and 3.30pm. Claims cannot be accepted outside these hours. You must have your Checkmate Card with you when you claim. In the event of a tie, the prize will be divided equally among the winners. For General Rules, see the reverse of your Checkmate Card.

□ TODAY'S WINNER will be announced in *The Times* tomorrow. Yesterday's winners: Ms L. Fileran, Shipley, Yorkshire; Mr P. McLoughlin, Tottenham, London.

TODAY'S CHESS BOARD



TODAY'S CHECKMATE TABLE

King		King
Queen		Queen
Rook		Rook
Bishop		Bishop
Knight		Knight
Pawn		Pawn



THE TIMES
WORLD CHESS
CHAMPIONSHIP



since Black was not threatening ... b4, on account of Bc4 winning his queen.

13 ... Rb8
14 ... Rb8
Short: "I felt it necessary to pop up my pawn on e4 to blot out the activity of Black's queen and bishop on the e8-h1 diagonal. Unfortunately, the presence of the pawn on f3 stops me from transferring a rook across the third rank into an attack against the Black



Short: celebrating first victory in the match

kingside. Therefore, I can say that Kasparov's 13th move ... Rb8 is an excellent one.

"It is much too dangerous for me to accept the sacrifice of the pawn on g7 since Black would get a huge counter-attack on the open g-file with his rook. For example 14 Qxg7 Rg8 15 Qh6 d5 16 exd5 Nxd5 17 Bxd5 Rxd5 18 Ne4 Rd1 19 Rxd1 Qx4 20 f3 Rg2+ 21 Kg2 Qxf3+ 22 Kg1 Qg2 checkmate."

14 Nd5 is a thematic sacrifice, but after 14 ... exd5 15 exd5 Nxd5 16 Qxg7 Kd7 17 Qg4+ Kc7 18 Bxd5 Qxd5 19 Rxe7+ Kb8, the complications favour Black, with ... Rhg8.

14 ... O-O
15 Bc6 Ne8
16 Kh1 Kb8
17 Bg5
Short: "I want to exchange the dark-square bishops in order to weaken the defences of Kasparov's pawn on d6."

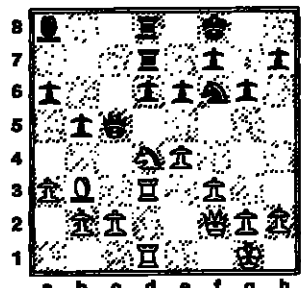
Mephisto
CHESS COMPUTERS

17 ... Bg5
18 Qxg5 Nf6
19 Rd1 Rf7
20 Rf2 Rf8
Short: "We are going round and round in a level position."

21 Rd1 Qc5
22 Qa8 Kg8
23 Kg1
Kasparov: "Now I should have played 23 ... Qxc3+ 24 Rxc3 d5 when the position will soon become a dead draw."

24 Qc2 Kb8
25 Ne2 g6
Kasparov: "This is a horrible mistake. I had to trade queens immediately."

26 Nd4



Short: "There is now a threat of 27 Bxc6 fxc6 28 Nxc6+ winning."

Kasparov: "My intention had been to play 26 ... e5, forcing the exchange of

queens. That was the reason I played ... g6 on move 25, to deny White's knight the E-square. However, when I reached the position I realised to my horror that after my 26 ... e5 27 Rxc3 Qg7 (not 27 ... Qb6? 28 Ne6+ winning my queen) 28 Nc6 Qxc2+ 29 Kxf2 Rxc3 (29 ... Bxc5 30 Rxc6 gives White a superior endgame) that Short has the trick 30 Nxe5 Rxc3 31 Nxd7+ Nxd7 32 bxc3 when I am lost."

26 ... Qc5
27 Re1 g5
Short: "This is to prevent me playing f4. If Kasparov's position were more stable, this might prove the prelude to a dangerous attack against my king, but in fact Black's position is too loose and this move is merely an indication that there is something seriously wrong with his position."

28 c3 Kg7
29 Bc2 Rg8
30 Nb3 Kf8
31 Rd4 Ke7
32 e4

Short: "In conjunction with my 30th move Nb3 and my 34th move Rb4 this is the perfect way to dismantle Kasparov's queenside."

32 ... h5
33 aab5 aab5
34 Rb4

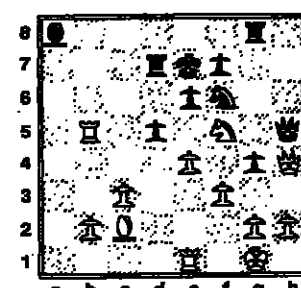
Short: "It is possible to play

34 h4 and if 34 ... gxf4 35 f4, trapping Black's queen, but my position is so powerful that it is really not necessary to introduce this kind of complication."

34 ... h4
35 Nd4 g4
36 Rxb5

Short: "With Kasparov's king pinned down in the centre and my extra pawn, Black's position is already desperate. There is one last spectacular way to try to defend but it does not work, namely 36 ... Qxb2+ 37 Kxh2 g3+ 38 Kg1 gxf2+ 39 Kxf2."

37 Qxb2+ Qxb2
38 Nf5+ Resigns



Short: "My knight delivers the final blow. After 38 ... exf5 39 exf5+ Kf8 40 Qxf6 Kasparov has no defence against the lethal Rb8+." I am delighted with this game. I took control, avoided getting upset or confused at any stage and finally delivered the successful knockout punch."

"I made the British public happy, but not myself."

Winning Move, page 48



Garry Kasparov, the champion, tries to extricate himself from a losing position in Tuesday's game

Victory saves the bookies £10,000

BY IAN MURRAY

NIGEL Short's face-saving victory on Tuesday also saved William Hill's £10,000 in payouts for bets made that the British player would fail to win any of the 24 games in the match.

"We were very happy indeed to see him win," said Graham Sharpe, of Hill's. "We now expect the result will revitalise interest and a lot of money will be going on the next couple of games." Hill's had been taking up to £5,000 in bets on individual games at the start of the championship, but interest had tailed off as Short failed to win any of the first 15 games.

Hill's has now halved the odds on Short winning the title from 1000-1 to 500-1, and yesterday a small number of punters were placing bets on a British victory for the first time in weeks. Hill's has also halved the odds on Short winning today's game, when he plays Black, from 12-1 to 6-1, with Kasparov at 4-5 and a draw at 11-5.

Ladbroke's is offering odds of 11-4 on Short winning today, against 7-2 for Kasparov.

Last night Lord Callaghan of Cardiff, the former prime minister, opened an exhibition of antique chess sets and games tables at Fortnum and Mason in London in an event organised as part of the London Chess Festival.

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Lockerbie suspects refuse to stand trial in Scotland or US

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH
SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

THE two Libyans suspected of masterminding the Lockerbie bombing will never surrender for trial in Scotland or the United States, their British lawyer said yesterday.

Alistair Duff, the Scottish lawyer representing the men, said he had the authority of Dr Ibrahim Legwell, the Libyan lawyer who heads the defence team, to make the statement.

Mr Duff said that the two accused, Abdel Basset Ali al-Megrahi and Alim Khalifa Fhimah, would be prepared to stand trial in another country, preferably an Arab-speaking one or a Mediterranean country such as Malta. Unless the government agrees to a trial in a third country "there will be no trial anywhere, ever", Mr Duff said.

In an interview with *The Scotsman*, Mr Duff said the men's willingness to stand trial should not be doubted. They had a "deep sense of the shame associated with the names of their families and tribes" brought about by the allegations, and wanted to establish their innocence.

But they were not satisfied a Scottish court could offer enough protection to obliterate

■ An ultimatum by the two Libyans accused of bombing Pan Am flight 103 may mean that there could be no trial at all

the effects of publicity that had surrounded the case. The defence team met in Tripoli at the weekend and had 15 hours of talks spanning two days.

Mr Duff said on radio last night that he feared the two men might be kidnapped by the West. "I cannot exclude the possibility that they will be kidnapped by their own government, by our government or the American government."

"The Foreign Office and the Crown Office should consider whether they want a trial in this case at all and, if they do, they should be prepared to be flexible." The Libyan government had behaved "disgracefully" by placing the men under enormous pressure to surrender to the West.

The Crown Office in Edinburgh, which would prosecute the case if it came to Scotland, said its position remained unchanged. "We have always said that we wanted the two accused to stand trial in Scotland or the United States, in accordance with the United Nations resolution. That reso-

lution does not allow for them standing trial in Malta or Switzerland or wherever."

The Scottish Office has spent thousands of pounds preparing for a trial in Scotland. The Crown Office in Edinburgh has said that it is ready to bring a case against the two men "tomorrow". The prosecution has been working on proceedings for almost two years, ever since the arrest warrants were issued.

A special unit to hold the men has been built at Barlinnie prison in Glasgow at a cost of over £100,000.

The UN Security Council is expected to vote on tougher sanctions against Libya today or tomorrow. Britain, France and the United States called for stricter sanctions after Libya failed to hand over the two men by October 1.

The new sanctions would ban the sale to Libya of equipment used in oil refineries and transport, and freeze some financial assets abroad. But oil-drilling equipment and sales are excluded.

GP gave daughter cannabis

BY PAUL WILKINSON

A DOCTOR who prescribed cannabis resin for her daughter to alleviate the symptoms of an illness appeared in court yesterday accused of illegally supplying the controlled drug.

Anne Biezanek, 65, admits supplying the drug to her daughter Lucy, 33, but has entered a defence of "necessity" or "duress of circumstances" to five charges of possessing, supplying and attempting to supply cannabis.

Opening the case at Liverpool Crown Court, Michael Abelson said she could rely on

the defence only if she had acted to avoid death or serious harm. Her daughter, also known as Gabrielle Walters and Dr Ice Jesus Jones, was said to be suffering from "a serious and intractable illness".

Mr Abelson told the court how police in Scotland had intercepted parcels of the drug sent by Dr Biezanek, a GP, from her home in Wallasey, Merseyside, to the caravan where her daughter had lived. Some cannabis had been sent to her daughter's GP in Scotland, Dr Pamela Barker, with

instructions on how to administer it. The package also contained a letter in which Dr Biezanek said that after her initial apprehension about the drug she had tried it herself, melted in warm milk, and experienced "pleasant, quiet dreams, full of hope".

Dr Barker gave the parcel to police and Dr Biezanek was arrested at her home in February last year. More cannabis was found in her handbag and the doctor admitted "I always carry it with me". The trial continues today.

Vigil honours victims of racial hatred



Palmer Black of the Anti-Racist Alliance attending a vigil outside the Home Office yesterday in remembrance of victims of racial murders. Campaigners handed a letter to the home secretary urging tougher action to combat racism

Lessons in literacy put family life first

BY BEN PRESTON
EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

FIVE family literacy projects to encourage parents, particularly single mothers, and their children to learn together were launched yesterday.

The pilot schemes to break the circle of family illiteracy, based on American initiatives, will open in the new year in Norwich, Liverpool, North Tyneside, Cardiff and Newham in east London.

The projects are co-ordinated by the Adult Literacy and Basic Skills Unit and financed by a £250,000 government grant. They will be watched by ministers as a model to help the country's four million adults with reading and writing difficulties.

Research by the unit has shown strong links between parents with literacy problems and the under-achievement of their children. More than half of children whose parents had reading problems and no school qualifications were in the lowest reading score group, the study found.

Under the scheme, more than 1,500 parents and children will receive eight hours teaching a week in separate groups under the same roof for three months. Parents will be encouraged to use their new skills by reading stories to their children at home.

Alan Wells, director of the unit, said the projects were intended to encourage single parents by offering crèche facilities and transport. However, they would also be aimed at fathers and working parents with Saturday and summer school sessions.

Robin Squire, education minister, said family literacy schemes were particularly cost-effective. "The resources put in work twice over. They help raise parents' attainments and, in helping parents, they help children."

Dr Thomas Stith, president of The ABC's, an American educational charity which has pioneered family literacy projects, said that they motivated and gave self-confidence to whole families, including older children.

Scientists create big bang in publishing

BY ALISON ROBERTS
AKTS REPORTER

TWO books describing the race to prove the Big Bang theory will battle for readers next month as the publishing world extends its scientific frontiers.

Dr George Smoot, leader of the team of astrophysicists who discovered ripples in the structure of the universe, secured the biggest deal in science publishing for *Wrinkles in Time*, worth an estimated \$2 million (£1.3m) in worldwide rights.

The book, published in the UK next month by Little, Brown and described as a "thrilling description of the birth of the universe" could rival Stephen Hawking's *A Brief History of Time*. Professor Hawking endorses Dr Smoot on the front cover, calling his findings "the scientific discovery of the century, if not of all time".

Ripples in the Cosmos, by the British scientist Michael Rowan-Robinson, is published next week by W H Freeman—a month before Dr Smoot's book. It is billed as "a story packed with anecdote and drama, culminating in a series of spectacular cosmological discoveries".

Professor Rowan-Robinson, a leading participant in a satellite project which fed into the American discoveries, acknowledged the "competitive element". He said: "George Smoot is no Stephen Hawking, so I think it most unlikely that it will sell in the same way. I think our books will be complementary. But there is a certain competition."

Dr Smoot has high expectations. He said: "I assume that certainly half the people in the world have some interest in the discovery. We have tried to make it as accessible as possible, balancing the adventures with the science."

The market for science books is booming. A series of 12 popular books by eminent scientists such as Colin Blakemore, Richard Dawkins and Richard Leakey is planned for next year, in 25 languages.

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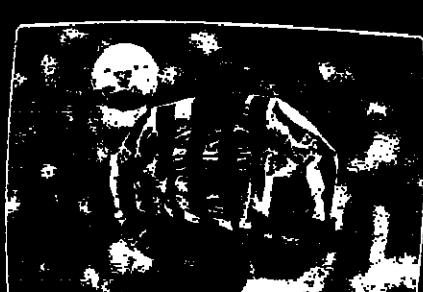
What's your



October 16-24 - Major League Baseball - The World Series - LIVE



October 22 - Rugby League - Wakefield vs Widnes - LIVE



October 24 - Premier League - Southampton vs Newcastle United - LIVE



October 29-31 - ATP Tennis - Stockholm Open - LIVE



November 7 - Superbikes - World Championship - Mexico - LIVE

first choice



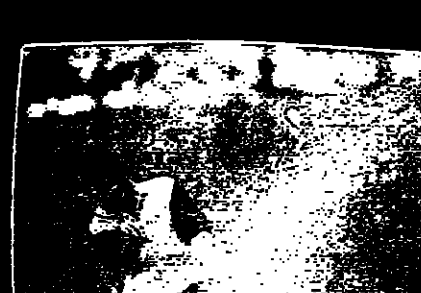
November 7 - Premier League - Manchester City vs Manchester United - LIVE



November 14-15 - The F.A. Cup - 1st round - LIVE



November 16-21 - Tennis - ATP Finals from Frankfurt - LIVE



November 16-17 - 1993 PGA - Grand Slam of Golf - LIVE



November 17 - World Cup Qualifier - San Marino vs England - LIVE - England's last chance to qualify for the World Cup Finals

for sports



November 19 - Rugby League - Bradford Northern vs Wigan - LIVE



November 21 - Premier League - Newcastle vs Liverpool - LIVE



November 25 - WWF - Survivor Series - EXCLUSIVE



November 27 - Cricket - Six Nations Cup Final - LIVE



November 28 - Premier League - Liverpool vs Aston Villa - LIVE

this Autumn?

OCTOBER

- 16-24 Major League Baseball - The World Series - LIVE
- 17 Superbikes World Championship - Portugal - LIVE
- 17 Premier League - Ipswich Town vs Leeds United - LIVE
- 18 Premier League - Blackburn Rovers vs Sheffield United - LIVE
- 19 UEFA Cup - Bayern Munich vs Norwich - LIVE
- 22 Rugby League - Wakefield vs Widnes - LIVE
- 24 Premier League - Southampton vs Newcastle United - LIVE
- 28-31 US PGA Golf - Tour Championship - Exclusive

- 29-31 ATP Tennis - Stockholm Open - LIVE
- 29 Rugby League - Warrington vs Leigh - LIVE
- 31 Premier League - Coventry vs Sheffield United - LIVE

NOVEMBER

- 1-7 ATP Tennis - Paris Open - LIVE
- 1 Premier League - West Ham United vs Man City - LIVE
- 4-7 US PGA Golf - Kapalua International - LIVE
- 5 Rugby League - Salford vs Warrington - LIVE
- 7 Superbikes World Championship - Mexico - LIVE

- 7 Premier League - Man City vs Man Utd - LIVE
- 10 World Cup Qualifier - Turkey vs Norway - LIVE
- 11-14 World Cup of Golf - Exclusive
- 14 The F.A. Cup - 1st round - LIVE
- 14 US PGA Golf - Merrill Lynch Shoot Out - LIVE
- 15 The F.A. Cup - 1st round - LIVE
- 16-21 Tennis - ATP Finals from Frankfurt - LIVE
- 16-17 1993 PGA - Grand Slam of Golf - LIVE
- 17 World Cup Qualifier - San Marino vs England - LIVE
- 19 Rugby League - Bradford Northern vs Wigan - LIVE

- 19-21 US PGA Golf - Shark Shoot Out - LIVE
- 21 Premier League - Newcastle vs Liverpool - LIVE
- 22 Premier League - Chelsea vs Man City - LIVE
- 24-25 Cricket - 6 Nations Cup Semi Finals - LIVE
- 24 F.A. Cup Football - 1st round replay - LIVE
- 25 WWF - Survivor Series - Exclusive
- 26 Rugby League - St Helens vs Halifax - LIVE
- 27 Cricket - 6 Nations Cup Final - LIVE
- 28 Premier League - Liverpool vs Aston Villa - LIVE
- 29-3 ATP Tennis - World Doubles Championship - Exclusive

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هكذا من الاجل

Black barre Life wins

Lock-up law at Soho sex

Television w for Thatche

Black soldier barred from Life Guards wins £6,500

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

A SOLDIER whose posting to the Life Guards was changed because he was black has been awarded £6,500 for his injured feelings.

Corporal Jake Malcolm, who is serving in Germany as a senior clerk with the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, is the third black soldier to win compensation for racial discrimination.

Corporal Malcolm, 31, told an army board of enquiry in November last year that he was frequently the target of racist remarks. He had joined the army at the age of 21 in 1983. When he returned from serving in the Gulf war in March 1991, he was told that he was to be attached to the Life Guards, based at Paderborn, Germany.

Before his transfer, he telephoned the Life Guards to seek reassurance that he would not suffer discrimination. He spoke to a sergeant-major who told him: "Look, son, it's nothing personal, but this is a difficult regiment to serve in at the best of times, without the added problems of being..."

When Corporal Malcolm suggested the word he was looking for was "black", he was told: "Well, putting it bluntly, yes. You are better off going somewhere else. I will get you posted elsewhere."

Despite the corporal's protest that he still wished to serve with the Life Guards because his girlfriend lived near by, his posting was changed. A junior army clerk told the hearing that Corporal Malcolm was angry and upset about the conversation and the changed posting. The board ruled: "We are satisfied from the evidence that Corporal Malcolm's posting was changed because of his colour."

The award, which was announced yesterday after the board's finding had been confirmed by Corporal Malcolm's commanding officer, consisted of £5,000 for injury to feelings and £1,500 aggravated damages. The Commission for

Racial Equality contributed towards his costs and the defence ministry has been asked to pay the rest.

The corporal was represented at the hearing by the Central London Law Centre. Tamara Lewis, from the centre, said yesterday: "It takes a great deal of courage for a soldier of junior rank to bring a claim of race discrimination while remaining in the army's employment. Disturbing evidence was given about the frequency of racist remarks made to Corporal Malcolm by all ranks."

Corporal Malcolm, from Leeds, was described during the hearing as a "popular and well-regarded soldier, respected for his skills in the performance of his trade as well as his character."

The first case of racial discrimination involved Private Stephen Anderson of the Devon and Dorset Regiment. A musician with the regiment, he claimed racial abuse at a hearing in December 1991 and was awarded £600.

Three months ago, Anthony Evans, a 25-year-old former soldier, was awarded more than £8,000 in a race discrimination case. A former private with the 1st Battalion The Royal Regiment of Wales, he won compensation for more than seven years of racial abuse and discrimination.

The grandson of a black American soldier, Mr Evans had joined the regiment at 16. He said that a kangaroo court found him "guilty" being black and he was scrubbed with brushes in a bath of bleach and urine.

Mr Evans, who lives in Cwmillery, Gwent, also said that while stationed in Germany he was addressed as nigger boy, black boy, wog or coon. Part of his settlement was compensation for having been punched.

The defence ministry does not record the number of black soldiers. Some of the Guards regiments are known to have recruited few soldiers from ethnic minorities.

Lock-up law aims at Soho sex shops

BY A STAFF REPORTER

POLICE and council officers will be given powers to shut down unlicensed Soho sex premises and secure them with locks and bolts if a private bill succeeds.

The bill is directed against owners who operate as overseas companies, virtually immune from prosecution.

Merv Montacute, the managing director of Westminster Council in central London, which is promoting the bill, said yesterday: "Fines alone are not an effective deterrent. We desperately need new powers which would enable us to physically secure the premises and stop the income at source. We are determined that the real culprits, those who receive the profits, will be hit hard."

Under the bill, which goes before Parliament early next year and could be law by 1995, magistrates could grant the council a closure order on unlicensed premises, which would then be secured. At the moment, only equipment, fixtures and fittings can be seized.

If premises were reopened

in defiance of the order, the operators could be fined £20,000 or jailed for three months, or both. Although unlicensed peep shows are frequently raided by council officers and the police, they often reopen less than 24 hours later.

Mr Montacute said: "The practice in Soho is for these premises to be run by front men. The real owners shield their identity and remain largely immune from legal action."

"Closing down the premises is the only effective remedy. We aim to stop the flow of income and then, hopefully, these properties will be put to lawful use, such as restaurants and cafes that Soho is famous for."

A report presented to the council earlier this week said that at the beginning of 1992 the police had identified 26 unlicensed sex establishments in Soho.

Despite the execution of more than 200 warrants by the police and council officers on such premises, the number had since increased to 37.

Police agree £70,000 award after wrongful conviction

RECORD compensation of £70,000 will be paid to a man whose wrongful conviction for robbery led to the West Midlands serious crime squad being disbanded.

Under a High Court settlement announced in Birmingham yesterday, Paul Dandy agreed to accept the money paid into court last month by Ron Hatfield, the force's chief constable. The West Midlands force also faces legal costs believed to be about £250,000.

There was no admission of liability by the police, but lawyers for Mr Dandy said the settlement amounted to a full vindication.

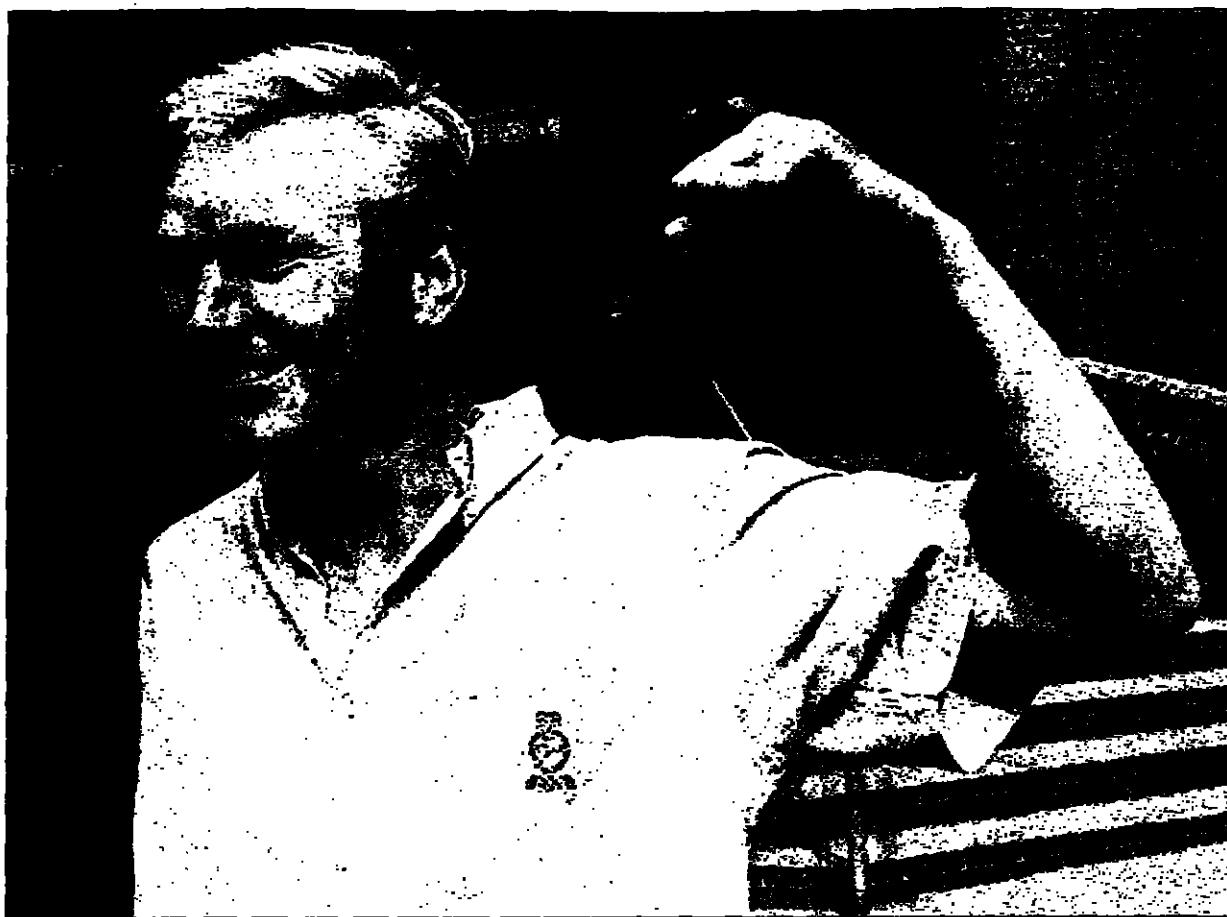
Mr Dandy's solicitor David Simon said: "He now feels this record payment, although made only at the eleventh hour, fully vindicates him and represents a public and unequivocal acknowledgement that he has been a victim of serious police misconduct."

After yesterday's hearing, Mr Dandy said the cash could not make up for the time he spent in prison, and he believed the police involved had "got off scot-free".

He said: "I would have preferred the police to have got the sack rather than them still being active members of the police force."

Mr Dandy took civil action because he felt the absence of prosecutions meant his name had not been fully cleared. West Midlands police said a new report on the case would be sent to the Crown Prosecution Service.

Mr Dandy, who claimed false arrest and malicious prosecution, was arrested in February 1987. It was later



Paul Dandy, who believes the police "got off scot-free", said the cash would not make up for his time in jail

alleged that he had shot and injured a security guard in a robbery of the Midlands Electricity Board offices in Erdington, Birmingham. During interviews with squad detectives, he was said to have admitted the offence.

However, Esda tests — which can match indentations on a page with the

writing on the page above — suggested his claimed one-line admission had been added later by police.

When the results were revealed at his trial in November 1987, the prosecution case collapsed.

Mr Dandy was released after eight months of solitary confinement in the high-

security wing of Winson Green prison, Birmingham, during which time he tried to commit suicide.

Counsel for Mr Dandy, Richard Clayton, told the court yesterday: "For eight months Mr Dandy was kept in solitary confinement for 23 hours a day."

"He was strip-searched

daily. The conditions powerfully affected Mr Dandy, not least because he believed that he would serve a long period of imprisonment, perhaps 15 years, if convicted and feared that because his defence depended upon his word being accepted in preference to the police, a conviction was almost inevitable."

Mr Clayton said that four officers, Det Cons Lawrence Shaw and David Woodley and Det Sigs James McManus and John Rawlings, were involved in fabricating statements.

Mr Clayton told the court that despite police not admitting liability, Mr Dandy believed his name had been cleared.

He said: "The payment into court has been made without any admission of liability. This has deeply distressed Mr Dandy."

"When he commenced these hearings in November 1989, his objective was to clear his name. Even though his prosecution was dropped amid widespread publicity, many people have told him that they believe he was released as a result of a legal technicality."

"He wishes it to be known that he is innocent of the allegations. He regards the payment as putting this issue beyond question."

"He takes the view that this payment represents a public and unequivocal acknowledgement that he has been a victim of serious police misconduct and in those circumstances considers he has been entirely vindicated."

After the trial collapsed in 1987, the Police Complaints Authority supervised an investigation into Mr Dandy's claims, but the Director of Public Prosecutions ruled there was insufficient evidence to mount criminal proceedings. DC Shaw, Sgt McManus and their supervising officer Det Chief Insp John Brown were, however, disciplined for neglect of duty.

Judge frees torturer

A woman who helped to torture a man who had abused her three-week-old daughter was put on probation by the Old Bailey for two years. Julie Elliott, 20, of Kingston, southwest London, admitted causing grievous bodily harm to her former lover, Paul Simon, 22, of Surbiton, southwest London.

The court was told that Elliott, her boyfriend Darren McGrath, and William Totten, 26, took Mr Simon to Elliott's flat where he was beaten, humiliated and tortured.

Totten, of Surbiton, was jailed for four years for causing grievous bodily harm with intent and McGrath was sentenced to three years on the same charge.

Murder trial

Curtis Howard, 26, who was extradited from the US last month, was sent for trial at Leeds Crown Court charged with the murder of Catherine Ayling, 24, of Littlehampton, Sussex, in 1991.

Surgeon held

Dr Urnesh Gaud, 40, of Bethnal Green, east London, who allegedly took a job as a surgeon while concealing he carried the hepatitis B virus, was remanded by Thames magistrates for a further six weeks after failing to find £5,000 bail.

Death charge

Winston Stewart, 51, of Moss Side, Manchester, has been charged with the murder of Terry Holt, 40, in a pub after the Eubank/Benn boxing match last Saturday.

McVitie's fined

United Biscuits UK, which trades as McVitie's, was fined £9,000 and costs at Brent Magistrates' Court, London, after admitting polluting the Grand Union Canal with oil.

Television world clamours for Thatcher revelations

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE BBC has made \$1 million (£650,000) from selling the overseas rights to its four-part documentary on Baroness Thatcher, even before the programmes have been screened in Britain.

The four-part series, which contains several outspoken and candid interviews with the former prime minister as well as contributions from Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev, went on sale at the Mipcom '93 international television programme fair in Cannes this week and quickly outsold leading BBC dramas.

BBC Enterprises said yesterday that it expects further sales to follow, especially to American networks, which

could double or triple the \$1 million earned from sales to broadcasters in France, Japan, Sweden, Hong Kong, Australia and Taiwan.

In a departure from its usual sales practice, the BBC is also offering to provide potential buyers with interview access to Lady Thatcher. That option has already been taken up by the French channel FR3, whose star presenter, Jean Marie Cavada, will interview her.

Rob Milne, commercial manager for BBC news and current affairs sales, said that overseas broadcasters could tailor the series to their own needs. "An Australian network could choose, for example, to condense it into

a one-hour special, focusing on its country's relationship with Lady Thatcher."

The series cost the BBC about £1.3 million to make, including a substantial payment to Lady Thatcher. It is expected to be the BBC's top earner this year, far outstripping the corporation's top-selling drama, the four-part *House of Cards*, which has grossed £500,000.

The Thatcher series is based on more than 40 hours of interview footage made by the television producers Hugh Scully and Derys Blakeway. Its launch has been timed to coincide with publication of Lady Thatcher's memoirs, *The Downing Street Years*.

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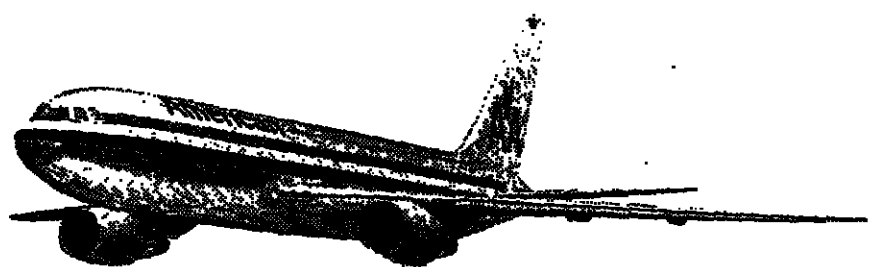
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سكنا في الامم

Thugs celebrate as Americans sail away from Haiti

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER
IN PORT-AU-PRINCE

FROM the American Airlines jet flying into Haiti's wretched capital late on Tuesday, the USS *Harlan County* could be seen steaming away in the opposite direction. It was heading northwest, across the glittering Caribbean towards the American naval base in Cuba, leaving in its wake two Haitian escort vessels and all the hopes of Haiti's oppressed and impoverished masses.

At the barricaded entrance to the city's harbour, the band of heavily armed thugs who had for two days, with the blessing of Haiti's military regime, prevented 200 US troops from disembarking, celebrated their victory well into the night. They danced, cheered and fired their guns into the air.

Yesterday morning in the abominable slums of Cité de Soleil, most ordinary Haitians were too frightened to be seen talking to foreign journalists. Those that did expressed dismay at President Clinton's withdrawal of American troops. The presence of such outside forces was their best, perhaps only, guarantee that the military would permit Jean-Bertrand Aristide, their exiled president and champion, to return on October 30 as stipulated in last July's UN-negotiated accord on restoring democracy to Haiti.

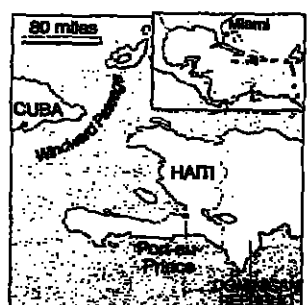
"The Americans are the only ones who can do anything for us," said one, a teacher who would not give his name. "We sigh for them. If Aristide doesn't come back, Haiti is finished." As he spoke two policemen approached, furiously brandishing automatic weapons and demanding to know who was talking to Mr Aristide. We were ordered to leave immediately.

The dismay of the Haitian masses was shared by dozens of diplomats and UN moni-

■ Adopting the lessons of Somalia, Haiti's regime succeeded in humiliating the Americans. Citizens hoping for democracy view the future with despair

tors in residence in the luxury hotels overlooking Port-au-Prince. "I don't think they [the military] realised how totally pusillanimous the Americans would be," said one. "This must be the easiest victory ever won against a supposed superpower."

These independent observers had no doubt that the military had taken its cue from Somalia. Haiti's rulers watch American news pro-



grammes. They saw Washington recoil last week when a dozen US servicemen were killed in Mogadishu. On Sunday they watched nervous congressmen give a warning against another risky military intervention. On Monday they sent their plain-clothed thugs, known as *attachés*, to the harbour to intimidate American diplomats and journalists arriving to greet the *Harlan County*, rightly calculating that the pictures would induce fresh panic in Washington.

"Ten minutes of violence frightened away the United States," said one disgusted diplomat, who scoffed at the notion that Somalia, riven by clan warfare, could be compared with Haiti, where a tiny armed minority is thwarting

the will of the six million population. Fifty Canadian policemen who arrived last week as part of the accord have not once been harassed by a combined military and police force of just 7,000.

America is now back where it was last June, calling once more for economic sanctions to try to force the regime's compliance with the July accord. However, diplomats from other countries believe that the accord is almost certainly dead, and argue that Raoul Cedras, the Haitian army chief, only signed it to buy more time.

The regime has mounted a campaign of terror over the past two months, killing as many as 100 Aristide supporters. In a meeting with Vicki Huddleston, the US charge d'affaires, and two US congressmen on Tuesday, General Cedras was reportedly "puffed up" at having stopped the deployment of US troops.

Under the accord, General Cedras, who led the coup against Mr Aristide two years ago, and François Michel, the ruthless Port-au-Prince police chief, are meant to step down tomorrow, but a senior American official offered 7-2 odds against that happening. State-run radio yesterday called for the expulsion of Robert Malval, the prime minister Mr Aristide appointed to oversee the transition, and Dante Caputo, the UN envoy.

In truth the security forces have overwhelming reasons for blocking Mr Aristide's return. Their lucrative drugs and smuggling rackets would be curtailed.

Leading article, page 19

Security council backs curbs

FROM WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON

THE UN Security Council was due last night to approve an American plan to reimpose economic sanctions on Haiti, after Washington withdrew the USS *Harlan County* carrying US and Canadian troops on a mission to help the return to democracy.

The Pentagon yesterday announced the suspension of plans to send 600 military advisers to Haiti, as part of a 1,600-strong UN force, until the country's military regime gave security guarantees for the troops. The departure of a second vessel, the USS *Fairfax County*, a tank-landing ship due to sail yesterday, was also delayed "pending developments in Haiti".

Dee Myers, the White House press secretary, said: "We're going to ask the UN to reimpose economic sanctions, those which

strike hardest at the individuals who are now holding up the process. Those include things like restriction on travel, freezing overseas assets and an oil embargo." Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, said sanctions would be "very effective" in reminding the military to comply with the UN-brokered agreement to provide a secure environment for President Aristide's return and to step down by the end of the month. An advance party of 25 US military advisers, sent to Haiti last week, is to remain for the time being; they might be called back if the situation does not improve.

But Senator Alfonse D'Amato, a New York Republican, after meetings with the military in Port-au-Prince, said: "I think it is rather naive to believe we are going to be invited into a nation that has the kind of history Haiti does."

Gun witness defeats Hani defence case

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN JOHANNESBURG

COUNSEL for Jamusz Walus, the Polish immigrant accused of murdering Chris Hani, the general secretary of the South African Communist Party, told the Rand supreme court yesterday that he could not ask it to acquit his client. Eben Jordan said the evidence of a police ballistics expert provided an "insurmountable difficulty" in contesting the case.

Captain L. W. Visser, of the Pretoria ballistics laboratory, testified that the bullets which killed Hani had been fired from a gun found in Mr Walus's car ten minutes after

a silencer at the request of Mr Derby-Lewis.

Yesterday was mainly taken up with the questioning of Mrs Derby-Lewis by the prosecutor, Klaus von Lieres und Wilkau. She admitted that a list of nine names and addresses, including Hani's, found in Mr Walus's flat was drawn up by a right-wing journalist at her request from 19 names submitted by her. But she insisted that it was not a "hit list", but intended to provide material for articles she intended to write for *Die Patriot*, the newspaper of the Conservative Party.

She told her counsel, Harry Prinsloo, that she wanted the addresses of Nelson Mandela, the president of the African National Congress, Joe Slovo, the chairman of the Communist party, Hani, Mac Maharaj, and other members of the liberation movement because she wanted to draw attention to the contrast between their luxurious lifestyles and their revolutionary ideals. She wanted the addresses of a number of liberal journalists because she believed they were betraying their people because they had been bought. "Journalists are very badly paid," she said, and she wanted to compare their domestic lifestyles with what a badly paid journalist could expect to attain.

Mrs Derby-Lewis said she had no idea how the list came to be in Mr Walus's possession, but that it was probably among a number of newspapers she had given him. She said she had never discussed the 288 pistol with her husband.

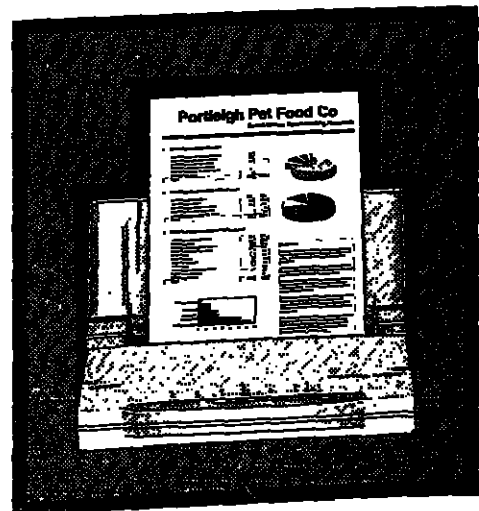
Defence submissions are expected to end today.



Gaye Derby-Lewis: hit-list denial

the killing. Mr Walus, who did not testify, said in a statement to police that the gun had been planted on him. Mr Walus, 38, and two prominent right-wingers accused with him, Clive and Gaye Derby-Lewis, have pleaded not guilty to charges of murder, conspiracy to murder and illegal possession of arms. Previous testimony suggested that the gun, a 288 9mm automatic pistol stolen from airforce headquarters in Pretoria, had been fitted with

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الحكمة من الأصل



Somali women walking past an armoured vehicle of the United Nations force in Mogadishu, near its headquarters in the former compound of the American embassy. The United States has sought to blame the UN for the failure of the military mission in the past four months

Somalia pullout 'would undermine UN'

FROM SAM KILEY
IN MOGADISHU

THE planned withdrawal of American troops from Somalia would have a "negative" impact on peacekeeping operations around the world, and cause the multinational force to "unravel", the United Nations' head of peacekeeping said yesterday.

Kofi Annan, the under secretary-general responsible for the "blue helmets", said that, although the Americans had suffered "massive casualties", any withdrawal would show that a determined group of men could thwart an international force.

"The message this would send around the world would not be a positive one. This is not a constructive message in ongoing peacekeeping operations, or operations we may wish to make," he said.

The United States has sought to blame the UN for the failure of the military mission in Mogadishu over the past four months. American officials maintain that Jonathan Howe, the retired American admiral who heads the UN operation here, has badly miscalculated the threat posed by General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the fugitive warlord.

Mr Annan's statement yesterday, the most open criticism of the American involvement by a UN official so far, was clearly a counter-attack. He said that military efforts to catch General Aidid, and other missions, had been hampered by participants who insisted on contacting their

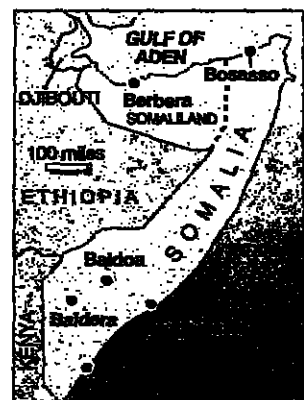
governments before taking orders from General Cevic Bir, the Turkish local commander of UN forces.

The Italian contingent has been moved out of Mogadishu because it answered to Rome rather than to General Bir. But the US contingent, which has always been under American rather than UN command, was also the focus of Mr Annan's criticism.

Although officials have said that the further 5,000 American military personnel being sent to Somalia would be used only to protect the UN soldiers in Mogadishu, Mr Annan insisted that he would "expect the US reinforcements to work with forces on the ground to implement the UN mandate" — a reference to Resolution 837 which requires the UN to arrest those involved in attacks on peacekeepers.

Robert Oakley, the American special envoy, yesterday continued to pursue his mission to secure the release of Warrant Officer Michael Durant, the pilot captured by General Aidid's militia 11 days ago, and Private Umar

Shantali, a Nigerian soldier who has spent five weeks in captivity. Mr Oakley said he had made contact with General Aidid's supporters, and that he was expecting "two or three things to happen in the next few days to show that they are



moving in a positive direction". He added: "We will not bargain, nor negotiate, nor pay anything for the release of the prisoners." Sources in General Aidid's Somali National Alliance said that they, too, were looking forward to

releasing the hostages, but that their freedom was not imminent. "We will hold them until we are convinced that we can trust the Americans," one source said.

A shaky ceasefire between General Aidid's militia and the UN held for a fifth day, but bandits fired on a food convoy escorted through Mogadishu by Saudi Arabian troops, who returned fire. A teenage boy was killed in crossfire.

Washington: The White House said yesterday that President Clinton's special assistant for media affairs was in Somalia to help journalists cover American peacekeeping operations in the battle-scarred country.

Jeff Eller, normally in charge of the public relations campaign for Mr Clinton's health care reform plan, was sent to Mogadishu "to assure that the kind of support that the [press] pool requires is provided," Mark Gearan, the White House communications director, said.

Although previous administrations have tried to supervise press coverage of

American military deployments abroad, it is virtually unprecedented for a White House official to be on the scene where troops are engaged.

Mr Eller's presence in Somalia, which Mr Gearan said would last "four or five days" may reflect the political sensitivity of the Somalia operation. "He has worked with the press and has an understanding of their wants and needs and requirements," Mr Gearan said, adding that he and David Gergen, the presidential counsellor, had sent Mould Eller as a symbol of the White House commitment to give them press a clear picture of the Somalia operation.

Mr Clinton, who has tended to play down foreign policy as he pursues health care reform and other domestic priorities, last week set a six-month 12 deadline for creating conditions under which Somalia can manage their own affairs. He promised that all American troops would withdraw by March 31, except for a few hundred non-combat support personnel. (Reuters)

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Old enemies come together to build Palestinian peace

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN TABA AND
CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN CAIRO

SOME of the most determined adversaries of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict sat down to peace talks in this Egyptian resort town yesterday to settle the details of last month's historic peace deal.

Inundated by reporters, some of the most renowned soldiers and spies of the decades-old struggle for Palestine opened a crucial negotiating process to resolve every detail of the transfer of power

Marjayoun, Lebanon: Israeli forces killed three radical Palestinian guerrillas, armed with machineguns and anti-tank missiles, who infiltrated Israel's self-declared security zone in south Lebanon on their way to attack yesterday. It brought the guerrilla death toll to seven in the past five days. (Reuters)

from Israeli military control in Gaza and the West Bank town of Jericho to Palestinian authority in two months.

The Israeli delegation was headed by Major General Amnon Shahak, the deputy chief of staff and one of Israel's most decorated soldiers, who is credited with the assassination of a top Palestinian Liberation Organisation commander in Beirut during the 1970s. Opposite him sat some of the most senior

Palestinian security officials. But the Israelis complained about the presence of Amin al-Hindi, who allegedly took part in planning the 1972 killing of Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics, and he left the talks.

Nevertheless, if the peace deal is to succeed both sides will have to co-operate, particularly on matters of security. Under the terms of the agreement signed in Washington one month ago between Israel and the PLO, the Taba committee will negotiate the terms of the Israeli military withdrawal, scheduled to begin in two months' time and be completed in four months.

In contrast, the Israeli-Palestinian Liaison Committee meeting in a Cairo hotel was buoyed by optimism. Within hours of the meeting of the committee — which has overall charge of the peace process at the ministerial level — they reached agreement on steps to put the peace plan into practice.

Shimon Peres, Israel's veteran foreign minister, and Mahmoud Abbas of the PLO, the two who signed the historic document in Washington, shook hands as they began the process of making it reality. "Both of us are here to make the Israeli-Palestinian agreement a full success," said Mr Peres, whose relaxed manner gave the impression that sitting down with the PLO was something he had been doing all his life. Mr Abbas said: "We have already



Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on the eve of autonomy for Gaza and Jericho. The hardline Hamas Islamic group called a strike yesterday on a "day of mourning"

achieved the declaration of principles. We are really eager to achieve a full peace." Asked whether it would be possible to reach a detailed agreement on Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the town of Jericho by December 13, as stipulated in the Washington timetable, Mr Peres replied: "Yes, we should make supreme efforts

to meet the time and, if possible, we shall do it earlier." The importance attached to the security negotiations at Taba was underlined by Yitzhak Rabin, the Israeli prime minister. "Without meaningful progress in the committee to advance Gaza-Jericho, all the rest will be simply marginal and secondary," said the Israeli leader

during his trip to China. Among some of the most urgent problems is the Palestinian demand for a blanket amnesty for thousands of Palestinians imprisoned, detained and deported for security offences. For his part, Israel would like guarantees about the safety of Palestinians living in the occupied territories who co-operated

with the Israeli authorities. According to Mahmoud Okasha, a Palestinian delegate, the most important and pressing problem facing the negotiators will be the demarcation of Jericho, the Jordan Valley oasis town, which is the first area on the West Bank to be returned to Palestinian rule. The Palestinians envisage an enclave of about

152 square miles, taking in Arab farming communities in the Jordan Valley, while the Israelis are offering something more in the region of 15 square miles — the current municipal boundaries. Efraim Sneh, a Knesset member for Israel's Labour party, identified the scale of the potential battle facing negotiators in the weeks ahead.

"The Palestinian dimension of Jericho runs somewhere between Paris and Islamabad," he said in Jerusalem. "Our perception is that it will just be the town of Jericho itself."

In Washington, the House of Representatives voted yesterday to suspend US laws restricting the activities of the PLO in the United States.

Slum gangs terrorise Rio beach tourists

BY GABRIELLA GAMINI

A LAZY afternoon on the sandy coastline of Rio de Janeiro became an ordeal for thousands of bathers and tourists forced to flee in panic as gangs of youths from nearby shanty towns turned the famous beaches of Copacabana and Ipanema into battlegrounds.

Brazilian television stations showed scenes of frenzied tourists scrambling from underneath their parasols having been stripped of their wallets, sunglasses and towels by hundreds of youths who invaded the beaches. Dozens were left naked. Women and children caught in the battle between the youths and police firing warning shots ran frantically in different directions. Many were trodden on and left injured.

The sight of streams of youths fighting battles on the once idyllic beaches is not so

unusual in Rio de Janeiro. Local people have tagged them *arrastões* (raids). But the battles which raged on Tuesday were perhaps the worst in years. Television bulletins showed bathers fleeing into the water to escape the stampeding youths. Some ran amok with broken beer bottles, attacking passers-by.

Official reports claimed eight people were injured and 20 were arrested after the heavily outnumbered police used truncheons to try to restore order and kept firing warning shots to disperse the youths. But many more people were reported to have been taken to hospital. It took hours for police reinforcements to arrive at Copacabana and Ipanema beaches.

Local people fear the raids are damaging the tourist industry, already severely affected by growing street violence.

Only last week an Argentine tourist was shot in the head when he refused to hand his video camera to a gang of armed slum-dwellers. Hundreds of people die each year through street crime, including many foreign tourists. But there are no official figures released, since this is seen as damaging to the industry.

Gangs of youths chanted slogans in protest at a recent massacre of 24 people in the shanty town of Vigário Geral on the outskirts of the city. Investigations into the killings confirmed that members of the security forces were involved. The agents form part of death squads hired by drug traffickers and also businessmen who want to see the streets cleared of poor people.

The *arrastão* is another sign of growing civil unrest in Rio de Janeiro, with its 2.5 million slum population.



A Hamburg court yesterday convicted a 39-year-old unemployed east German of stabbing the tennis player Monica Seles, above, in the back and then gave him a two-year suspended sentence that would keep him out of jail. The mild sentence following Günther Parhe's conviction on the charge of causing grievous bodily harm was likely to infuriate Miss Seles. Her lawyer said he would probably appeal. Parhe's obsession for Steffi Graf made him stab Miss Seles, her arch-rival. (AP)

Yeltsins 'would have been shot'

FROM JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

PRESIDENT Yeltsin sought yesterday to justify his use of force in suppressing the rebellion by "communists and fascists" against him.

He said at a Tokyo press conference: "Unfortunately, governments sometimes have to use force to avoid the terrible mess of terror and bloodshed and the loss of millions of lives." Mr Yeltsin, on a visit to Japan, said his rivals had taken "an official decision to shoot the president and his entire family".

Mr Yeltsin rejected proposals that he should change the timing of elections, saying that he intended to press ahead with December parliamentary elections, followed by a presidential poll next June.

Morihiro Hosokawa, the Japanese prime minister, offered the sympathy and continuing approval of Japan and other G7 countries for Mr Yeltsin, voicing the hope that

his reforms would succeed. Mr Yeltsin's two-day trip has produced little progress on the dispute over the Kurile Islands, which has dogged relations between the two countries since 1945.

The two leaders signed the Tokyo declaration, which records undertakings "to continue... negotiations on the territorial issue". It refers to the importance of the success of the reforms in Russia and agrees that expanded political dialogue is beneficial to better relations. The document includes agreements to promote the dismantling of Russia's nuclear weapons, to ensure the safekeeping of nuclear material and to consult on the dumping of radioactive waste.

General charged: Russian legal authorities charged General Albert Makashov, a leader of the Moscow coup attempt last week, with organising mass disturbances. (Reuters)

Belorussia seeks its cross of gold

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE former Soviet republic of Belorussia yesterday appealed for the return of a priceless medieval cross which legend says will usher in a new era of happiness and prosperity to its native land.

The 12th-century cross of Eufrosina of Polotsk, an emerald-encrusted golden artifact that disappeared during the second world war, is now believed to be in the hands of a millionaire collector in America. Petr Krauchanka, the foreign minister, yesterday called in London for its voluntary return, saying his country did not have the money to buy back the symbol of national unity.

Mr Krauchanka said his country was also trying to trace the treasure through Interpol, and asked Western museums and art galleries to co-operate. He gave a warning that a legendary eternal curse would fall on anyone

who stole the 12-inch cross, made for St Eufrosina, a princess who became a nun.

The Communists took it from her tomb, but it vanished after the German invasion and is thought to have been sold in northern Germany. The cross symbolises the country's three religions — Russian Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Uniate — and adds today's diplomatic passports.

The cross came up in talks with Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, but Mr Krauchanka's visit to London, coinciding with the appointment of John Everard, Britain's first ambassador to Minsk, concentrated more on his country's urgent need for aid to clean up the lingering radioactive contamination from the Chernobyl disaster and to dispose of the huge number of nuclear and conventional weapons on its soil.

US envoy attacks China on rights

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKEY
IN HONG KONG

A SENIOR American official has accused China of making little progress in improving its human rights record, and of being unwilling to stop exporting weapons of mass destruction. Peking's relations with America are unlikely to improve for some years, he said.

This is the assessment of American representatives, including John Shattuck, assistant secretary of state for human rights, who is now in Tibet where he hopes to see one of the notorious jails for political prisoners in Lhasa. Mr Shattuck could barely find positive words for the negotiations in which he tried to impress on his hosts "the great importance that President Clinton has assigned to human rights and democracy as one of the pillars of his foreign policy". He said if China wanted its most favoured nation trading status to be renewed next June there had to be "significant overall progress in human rights".

The best Mr Shattuck could say of his counterparts was that "their attitude was certainly attentive" and that they showed great interest in discussing human rights.

Mr Shattuck said that the matter would be brought up again when Mr Clinton and President Jiang Zemin meet in Seattle next month. Progress, Mr Shattuck said, would be measured by issues that included freedom of emigration, stopping the export of prison-made goods, releasing political and religious prisoners arrested over the past 12 years, and protecting the cultural heritage of Tibet.

Slavery made sound economic sense to Nobel prize-winner

BY WOLFGANG MÜNCHAU IN WASHINGTON AND NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

THIS year's Nobel prize for economics might as well have been awarded for political incorrectness. One of the recipients is a man who once argued that slavery was economically reasonable and viable.

Robert Fogel, an economic historian of the University of Chicago, stated in 1974 that the "spikes of racism" rather than "the chains of slavery" were behind the discrimination against blacks. In a comment which would be hardly appreciated in today's America, he said: "The spikes are fashioned of myths that turned diligent and efficient workers into lazy loafers and bunglers." Even the right wing of the Republicans would balk at such language, even though the underlying economic analysis is far more sober, and much of it is even beyond dispute, both in political and economic terms.

The co-recipient of the prize, Douglass North, of the University of St Louis, Missouri, is a fellow economic historian known for his work on institutions and economic development. It is the first time that

the prize has been awarded to economic historians, although in their methodology they both operate more like traditional economists and econometricians in that they apply quantitative and statistical techniques to their analysis.

In an unprecedented series, this was the fourth year in a row that the prize has gone to an economist at the University of Chicago, mecca of right-wing economics and the home of monetarism and several more deviant theories.

The Nobel prize for economics, a kind of afterthought when it was fostered by the Central Bank of Sweden in 1968, initially went to neo-Keynesian economists. More recently, the prize has drifted to the right. The reason for this lies in the time-lag between academic work and its impact on politics, so that today's prize reflects yesterday's trends.

As Ernest Hemingway once said: "No one that ever won the Nobel prize ever wrote anything worth reading afterwards." It was true for him, and it will probably be true for Professors Fogel and North. This notwithstanding, both were notable for original, and sometimes provocative work in the past.

Professor Fogel's work has a strong emphasis on 19th-century America and essentially it tries to debunk a series of commonly held views about America's economic development, such as the notion, taught in every kindergarten, that America owes its economic development to railroads. Nonsense, he concludes: had America chosen canals instead of railroads, the economy would have grown almost as much.



Professor Fogel gives his wife, Enid, a celebratory kiss at the University of Chicago on hearing of his award

But of all his work none is more controversial than his theories on American slavery. In his book, jointly written with Stanley Engerman, *Time on the Cross: The Economics of American Slavery*, Professor Fogel proclaims himself opposed to slavery, although on political rather than economic grounds. One of his more outrageous claims was that slavery was good for the cohesion of the black family (one could, of course, also argue that imprisonment is good for the cohesion between inmates).

He calculated that, while slaves were exploited by their owners, the rate of exploitation was much lower than thought: a typical slave, he found, kept 90 per cent of the income he produced during his lifetime.

Among other conventional wisdom he rejects the notion

that slavery was incompatible with the development of an urban industrialised economy, or that the economy of the South suffered because of it.

The Nobel prizes in physics and chemistry were awarded yesterday to three Americans and a British-born Canadian for their discoveries in astronomy and genetics.

The chemistry prize was shared by a British-born Canadian, Dr Michael Smith, and Dr Kary Mullis of the US, for discoveries that made possible "decisive progress in gene technology".

The physics prize went to Americans Drs Russell Hulse and Joseph Taylor for their 1974 discovery of the first binary pulsar — a pair of rapidly rotating objects in space which emit radio waves and which can be used as for the testing of theories of gravitation.

Hurd says no cash for institute

London: Britain has not turned its back on the Commonwealth, Douglas Hurd, the foreign secretary, insisted yesterday (Michael Binyon writes).

However, despite strong lobbying by Chief Emeka Anyaoku, the Commonwealth secretary-general, Britain will cut off all funding of the Commonwealth Institute in 1996. Mr Hurd did not promise any government reconsideration of this move.

In a speech to the English Speaking Union a week before the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Cyprus, Mr Hurd said distortions caused by the situation in South Africa had persuaded many Britons that the Commonwealth was an institution for lecturing Britain. "That period is now over," he said.

Walesa firm

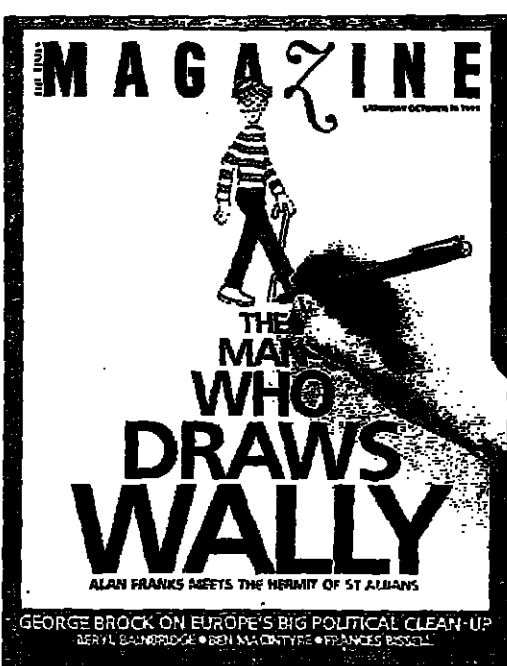
Warsaw: President Walesa has insisted that the Democratic Left Alliance and the Polish Peasant Party, winners of the recent election, submit three candidates for the office of prime minister.

Advert protest

Paris: A Frenchman dying of an AIDS-related condition, protesting against Benetton advertising, took out his own advertisement showing his emaciated face and the caption: "During the agony, the sale continues." (AP)

Ozone thinning

Wellington: Ozone levels over parts of the Antarctic were less than half the normal, according to research by New Zealand scientists. (Reuters)



"His modesty is as genuine and as refreshing as his talent. Although he is a millionaire several times over, he spends little, does not live opulently, but says he has never lost sleep wondering what to do with his money: 'I just invest it, really.'"

Alan Franks meets the recluse who hides Wally in his art

THE NEW UNTOUCHABLES

George Brock discovers a new breed of investigating magistrate taking high-level Euro-corruption head on

Plus: Beryl Bainbridge's diary, William Cash, Fiona Shaw, Frances Bissell, Jane MacQuitty.

This Saturday in The Times Magazine



North: known for work on institutions

هكذا قال الامم

Delors gives EC warning of slide to 30m jobless

FROM GEORGE BROCK IN BRUSSELS

EUROPE will have 30 million unemployed by the end of the decade if the continent's competitiveness and employment patterns are not rapidly changed, Jacques Delors, president of the European Commission, said yesterday.

M. Delors told the European parliament that Europe's economic performance against America and Asia was declining and that the Community was faced with a choice between further decline and survival. Describing plans which he will present to EC governments at the end of the year, M. Delors said that productivity gains should be channelled towards creating new jobs, rather than simply expanding the incomes of those already in work.

M. Delors was speaking on the day after the German constitutional court in Karlsruhe gave the go-ahead for ratification of the Maastricht treaty. Helmut Kohl, the German chancellor, addressing the French senate yesterday, committed his country to the Maastricht timetable for a single currency while giving a warning against European protectionism.

While Herr Kohl is evidently relieved that the EC can finally celebrate the treaty coming into operation, his references to protectionism reflect German fears that this autumn's struggles over free

trade may threaten the Franco-German partnership and the Community as a whole. The potentially disruptive influence of the argument over a new General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade was made clear by Edouard Balladur, the French prime minister, when he set out what he said was Paris's definitive position as the December deadline

Bonn: German officials preparing for this month's European summit are confident the European Monetary Institute, the fledgling central bank, will be in Germany. There is doubt about whether the headquarters should be in Frankfurt, where the Bundesbank is based. It is possible another German city, perhaps Berlin, will be chosen, to avoid the idea that the Bundesbank is calling the shots.

approaches with little sign of progress on its demand for better terms on European subsidised farm exports.

"Vital interests are involved," M. Balladur said. France did not accept the prevailing argument that December 15 marked the last hope for completing the six-year Gatt negotiations, he said. As well as agriculture,

matters remained unresolved over steel, aerospace and culture. Failing a global accord by December 15, "if any of our partners want to proceed with an intermediate summary, then we are ready".

A senior Community official said yesterday that a collapse of the Gatt negotiations would test Franco-German relations to destruction. "The Franco-German partnership would lose the support of German business," he said. "It would be the beginning of the end of that alliance." German business, heavily dependent on exports, has recently been pressuring Bonn to ensure that France signs a trade deal in December.

The official said Germany did not believe that France could be forced into a trade treaty against its will, or be outvoted by its partners. Germany, he said, would do its utmost to find ways of reconciling France to a trade deal. He was optimistic that France could be persuaded to sign a treaty. If negotiations failed, he said, "France would have gone against a fundamental German interest".

The official also suggested that America would have to concede some adjustments. He hinted that Germany might switch sides over toughening EC policy on imports.

Kohl in Paris, page 1



The Elgin marbles in the British Museum are back in the political arena with the return of Melina Mercouri as Greek culture minister

Athens chips away at marbles claim

FROM MALCOLM BRABANT IN ATHENS

INCENSE and Byzantine chants swirled through the state room in the presidential palace yesterday as, for the third time in his turbulent career, Andreas Papandreu placed his hand on the gold bible and swore allegiance to the state, the constitution and the people.

In most countries, this would have been a solemn occasion, but Mr Papandreu's cabinet acted as if it was at a wedding, chatting and giggling as Archbishop Seraphim read out the oath and tried to impose a little order.

Melina Mercouri, the actress best known for her performance in *Never on*

Sunday, characterised this new beginning as a day of "justice for the Greek people". Miss Mercouri, who has been given the post of culture minister again, promised to fight for the return from the British Museum of the Elgin marbles, the ancient friezes which adorned the Parthenon. "I never start a fight without continuing without finishing," she said. Consecutive British governments have refused to return the marbles as it would set precedent that would empty museums worldwide of their treasures.

At the first meeting of his new cabinet, Mr Papandreu said that the top priority

of the new administration would be to reverse a series of "anti-democratic" privatisation programmes that had been started by the defeated conservative government of Constantine Mitsotakis.

Mr Papandreu's intention to renationalise thousands of buses could cause a repeat of the bitterness and violence that accompanied their privatisation. "We are not avengers; we are simply obliged to restore legality."

The defence minister, Gerasimos Arsenis, moved to reassure the West with a promise that the Pasok government would be pro-EC, pro-Nato and pro-UN.



General is suspended after coup allegations in Italy

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

FABIO Fabbri, the Italian defence minister, yesterday suspended the commander of the elite Rapid Intervention Force, General Franco Monticone, from his post. Military judges are investigating allegations by a former mistress of the army officer that he was plotting a right-wing putsch.

Signor Fabbri ruled that General Monticone should "leave immediately" his position as head of the unit, which is one of Italy's main contributions to Nato forces. The Socialist minister had let it be known that he did not take seriously the accusations by the general's former lover, Donatella Di Rosa, the wife of a colonel in a parachute regiment, that he was planning a coup with brother officers, right-wing terrorists and Croatian mercenaries.

But a Florence investigating magistrate, Francesco Fleury, yesterday corroborated a key part of Signora Di Rosa's testimony by confirming that a right-wing terrorist, Gianni Nardi, previously thought to be dead, is alive and under investigation. On Tuesday, the chief military prosecutor in Rome, Antonino Intelliano, formally advised General Monticone that he was under investigation on suspicion of high treason and subversion, er with nine other senior army officers. A defence ministry statement said an investigation ordered by Signor Fabbri "had disclosed grave errors and intolerable defects in the conduct of the officer".

General Monticone has denied the allegations. He says they are part of a vendetta by Signora Di Rosa because he is suing her for the return of 700 million lire (£300,000), which he says she persuaded him to give her to pay a Vatican lawyer to obtain an annulment.

Commentators said that the affair has cast disrepute on the Italian armed forces as magistrates are working to bring to light the role of secret service agents in a series of unexplained bomb attacks.

The Chamber of Deputies (lower house) yesterday overwhelmingly passed a bill scrapping the immunity of members of parliament from prosecution. The bill now goes before the Senate for final approval before becoming law.

To hell and back to save the wounded

It is difficult to say which makes getting wounded families out of eastern Mostar worse - the personal risks or the red tape.

I had been given permission from the Croatian HVO military authorities to use their ambulance, and was provided with a police escort to the front line. We set off across the front line at about 3pm, me in the ambulance and a television crew following in an armoured Land Rover. The moment we reached the Muslim side, the shooting started, and the blue light on my ambulance was shot out.

The worst moment came when we got stuck under a railway bridge in full view of a sniper. I reversed several times before the ambulance pulled free. On reaching the hospital, I was asked by the medical director to take out several children whose evacuation had been requested a few days earlier. The hospital had received no reply from the United Nations to its request for protection for the evacuees. These children had been wounded since my last journey. I agreed to take them.

First, though, I had to ask permission from the local commander. By the time I saw him, it was too dark to make the return journey. I was told to wait until the next day. Next day, with permission still not given, heavy shelling began at noon. The Land Rover, parked outside the hospital, was hit and the hospital took 26 hits over two days.

The TV crew lost their satellite phone and one of them was hit by shrapnel. They decided to leave in UN armoured personnel carriers. I decided to stay in the hospital, in the hope of eventually evacuating those I had promised to help. Every time a shell exploded, injured and dying people were brought into the basement. Several Croat soldiers had been wounded while working as prisoners on the front line. One of them was immediately operated on, even though several Muslim soldiers needed surgery. I watched helplessly as a 20-year-old woman died; she had been hit while fetching water from the river. The stench of blood, the cries and screams of pain, were the stuff of nightmares.

The next day the Muslims began an offensive, moving 300 yards beyond the line. I could hear rocket-propelled

grenades. A massacre of Croat civilians was reported on television that evening, and a doctor beside me said: "I don't agree with it. But, you see, they seek revenge for their own wives, their own children."

When the shelling abated I would run from the hospital, ducking to avoid sniper fire, to the military office. I negotiated there for hours to evacuate the wounded and the family I had come for, but to no avail. On the sixth day I met Gerry Hume, an official of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, as he was leaving the area. He offered to help. But that night the Muslim commander, for no apparent reason, said: "Leave by midday."

In the morning I found the ambulance damaged and unusable. I had run out of time and luck. I left after assuring everyone that the evacuation would take place as soon as possible. I held the hand of the dying Croat soldier. "Let's go," he cried. One nurse screamed at me: "Why are you bothering with him? We would all like to leave." The soldier, 22, desperately needed five units of AB-positive blood. I kissed the wounded children and ran past the snipers to the three UN vehicles. I asked for a lift to the other side. I had hardly eaten: they have so little in eastern Mostar, a diet of rice and gravy and water straight from the river.

My shirt was dirty and bloodstained. As I sat looking round at the damage and the traumatised faces of the few people on the streets, a dog approached me warily, its front paw raised where it had been wounded. All I could do was hold the dog. It licked my face gratefully, and for the first time I cried openly.

When I reached the other side of the river, Croat doctors gave us the blood to save the young soldier's life, and Mr Hume delivered it the next day. My attempt to evacuate the wounded of eastern Mostar was taken over by the UN, who have identified seven cases as "qualifying for medical evacuation" - provided the evacuation is "safe".

There are many more people to be evacuated - wounded children and their families. One will not be leaving, a girl of 11. She died two days after I came home.



Sally Becker, the UK volunteer aid worker who single-handedly rescued children from Mostar in August, describes her harrowing return to the besieged Bosnian town to try to bring out the wounded

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Can't we treat animals more honestly?

How easy to be beastly

EXPRESSIONS of remorse are now so rare in public life that Richard O'Barry, the former trainer of Flipper the TV dolphin, deserves a small round of applause. In startlingly graphic terms, he told an audience at the Natural History Museum that there were five Flippers per series; that the first one died in his arms after refusing to breathe as a form of suicide; that to keep dolphins confined is intrinsically cruel, and that they had to be starved into performing. But the money was good. I bought me a new Porsche every year. You convince yourself that the animal is happy and there is no cruelty involved.

Good on him. In that last sentence, Mr O'Barry encapsulates the dilemma of all who work with animals. Clarity of vision can be blurred by familiarity and need: who has not heard a battery chicken, with some truth, that this is the only way he and his family can live, and well below the Porsche level. We all know the lame justifications, which even the farmers do not believe, such as "if the animals were unhappy, they wouldn't breed" — as if that finely-tuned species, Man, did not breed frequently in the most disgusting conditions. We all know that for our entertainment, the dawn farming programme reported that the RSPCA has taken time off, thanks be to God, from investigating the traumas of pet fish to produce a new code for the growing band of British ostrich farmers. Apparently ostriches need nice bouncy fences, so that when they run at them at high speed they don't hurt themselves. The item was accompanied by a warning that an ostrich delivers a powerful kick; and this is part of the poor dolphin's problem in its dealings with man. Not only are dolphins cursed with a deceptive permanent smile, but they have nothing to lash out with. They can only suffer, or stop breathing. And since, like chickens, they do not make their suffering plainly visible, their keepers are able to turn a blind eye to it.

The danger lies in polarised attitudes: on the one hand the familiarly callous animal-keeper, on the other the sentimental half-informed outsider. We see it

when scientists clash with animal liberationists; we see it when consumers divide into righteous vegetarians — "all farming is cruel" — and supermarket shoppers who look at the price and ignore the animal. The reluctance of consumers to know much about farming methods, or abattoir practices, is the factory farmer's most powerful ally.

I happen to have a ringside seat in this process: as Saturday readers will know, my husband runs a tiny and barely commercial farm where pigs root freely and cows, as far as I can see, have it all their own way. Our few meat customers are enlightened enough to admire a litter of piglets while filling a freezer-bag; but a TV crew came down recently, and corralled me in with a scampering, rooting family of pigs to deliver the soppy enquiry, "Do they all have names?"

"The sows do, but not these, they're off to the butcher —" "Cut! Sorry love," cried the director. "We can't say that..." Even though it was the whole point of the enterprise: the striking of a fair bargain, giving creatures stress-free lives and sudden unsuspected ends, better than you or I will get, in return for our use of them.

SENTIMENTALITY is the enemy: we must accept our use of animals, and look it square in the face, if we are to moderate it to a fair level. Those who campaign to shut all zoos and farms do little good. Those who plan to make them humane, and to exclude animals which suffer most — like dolphins, and polar bears, and veal calves — do more. The price of clear sight will always be some pain: I do not like saying goodbye to bull-dogs, even knowing their trip is short. I slip them an illicit hunch of hay. But the rewards are great, sometimes almost mystical: they are what horsemen get, and shepherds at lambing-time — the rewards of partnership.

We had a calf born early once, who Nature had designed to die. Night after night we poured milk down him until he could stand and suck; night after night his mother let down her milk to us and then stood like a white ghost as we fed him, licking our backs as if to say that she knew we were on her side. It was partnership, as good as we could make it in an imperfect world. It is what Mr O'Barry does now with wild dolphins: because he found out the hard way that doing otherwise diminishes us, as much as it does the animals.



LIBBY PURVES

Head to head, poles apart

Day 54 in hell: two accounts of an epic journey across Antarctica reveal men at their physical and psychological limits. Sir Ranulph Fiennes writes of bitter confrontation...

MIKE COST VITAL TIME... I SAID I WOULD GO ON WITHOUT HIM

On our fifty-third day Mike slowed right down, so that even my polar plod overhauled him. In the tent I offered Mike my spare chocolate saved from previous weeks.

The next day, after two hours of sleep, yard-by-yard progress, Mike was forced by another diarrhoea attack to stop and drop his trousers "by the roadside". A few minutes later he told me he could not continue. He must rest.

I was furious. We erected the tent and made tea. After Mike had rested for an hour or two I told him we must get going. He was angry and said I was boorish and graceless; in short a prick of the first order.

I told him that the mounting number of delays caused by his halts were costing us vital time. The few minutes of difference between our relative speeds were of no consequence since our time-keeping methods simply prolonged our marching hours to cover any such difference. This was not true of his stops. I stressed, in my anger, that if he could not take it, I would go on without him and that we must be hard not soft in our approach to every side of our schedule, or we would never reach the Pole.

On our sixtieth day Mike had a very bad day. He was worried within himself about his ability to continue fending off negative thoughts.

The last 200 miles before the Pole involved us in climbing above 10,000 feet. The altitude effects added to our debilitation and the heavy loads were beginning to change us in many subtle ways. Mike said later: "I had all day these endless thoughts about how to give up, on what excuse. I was on the point of calling Ran and I was going to say 'This is it'."

During the second hour of the morning Mike stopped to have one of many wayside pees and fumbled the job of fastening his trousers. His hands, colder than usual, would not fit back into his oiled wool Dachstein mitts. I stood waiting behind him, cursing silently as my swollen foot seemed to vibrate with shafts of pain. Less than 15 miles away in the frozen swirling mists, the South Pole waited.

Mike turned round, a cumbersome business wearing skis and in harness, but he needed to face away from the bitter south-easterly wind.

I knew he was in trouble when I heard him moaning with pain and fear. I knew what he was experiencing, the anguish that comes with allowing fingers or toes to go a touch too far down the road to frostbite and permanent loss. When I saw that Mike

was on the point of losing his fingers for good I wrenched off my fogged-up goggles, removed my clumsy Canadian Army mitts, and tried to force Mike's frozen hands into his Dachsteins.

My own fingers cooled in seconds to the point that they were of no help to Mike so I thrust them back into my mitts and screamed at Mike to shove his hands into his mitts.

Forcing his thighs together, Mike gradually squeezed blood back into his hands and eventually down to his fingertips but not before five of his fingers were badly nipped.

The delay had rendered my own hands unworkable in terms of trying to de-fog my goggles and the only feature I could see in the near white-out was Mike's indistinct silhouette eight yards ahead of me. His tracks were invisible. After an interminable time, I came to an abrupt halt as my ski-tips struck the rear of Mike's sledge.

I could not focus for a while as the cold wind whipped at my tear-ducts and Mike's face gave me no

clues through his goggles and balacava. Ice spikes poked horizontally from his chin as from a grotesque clown's mask.

"Are you okay, Mike?" I screamed at him, and struck him on the shoulder.

There was no response at all and his head seemed to loll.

I realised he was about to succumb to hypothermia. Because my fingers were numb and a steady Force Seven wind made things awkward, I spent several minutes unpacking and erecting the tent. When the inner tent was up I shouted to Mike to go inside and start the cooker whilst I fixed up the fly sheet.

A couple of minutes later I found that Mike was still kneeling in the snow and staring vacantly into space. I hustled him through the door-flap and, unpacking his sledge, threw his mat and bag inside.

Once the cooker was going, Mike began leadenly to remove his clothes as though in a trance. He said nothing but accepted a mug of

tepid soup from the Thermos. He slept for an hour and when he awoke spent some time staring at the tent ceiling. His memory, which had entirely gone as far as the last few hours were concerned, gradually returned. I made him two cups of tea and he ate two of his chocolate bars.

My mind was in turmoil. I had little doubt but he was pushing himself far too hard. For days now he had suffered from a "down" mood and I began to fear, as he did, that he would decide to "pack it in" somewhere along the plateau between the Pole and the Beardmore Glacier.

I realised that I must urge Mike to make up his mind now, before we reached the Pole, as to whether or not he wished to continue our attempt to cross the continent.

When I had urged Mike to push on despite diarrhoea I had, in my pique, said I would continue the journey without him if necessary. Both he and I knew this was nonsense since the whole basis of our venture was to be unsupported.

If either of us dropped out at any stage the remaining party, even if successful, could never claim an unsupported crossing. If Mike decided to evacuate to the Pole, I would have to do likewise.

Mike saw this point and probably sympathised with my predicament. He said he hoped he would be able to carry on.

Later in the day the wind dropped, the mists cleared and we carried on. Towards the evening I screamed at Mike: "Look ahead. Over there. There's a thing." For the first time in over 700 miles a man-made object was visible in the snow. We had a two-part wagger between us. Whoever spotted the first sign of the Pole would get a free hamburger, snack and, for sighting the Pole itself, a free "slap-up" lunch.

The thing turned out to be a half-buried meteorological balloon and its presence was a definite boost to morale.

At 7pm, glancing ahead as I topped a slow rise, I thought I saw movement. Removing my goggles, and squinting to focus, I could just make out a series of dark, blurred objects: five or six black marbles dancing on the shimmer of the southern horizon.

I turned back and shouted to Mike. It was a rare moment of sheer elation. The journey was far from over but we had dragged to the Pole just enough stores to allow us to cross the continent and survive. If our luck held.

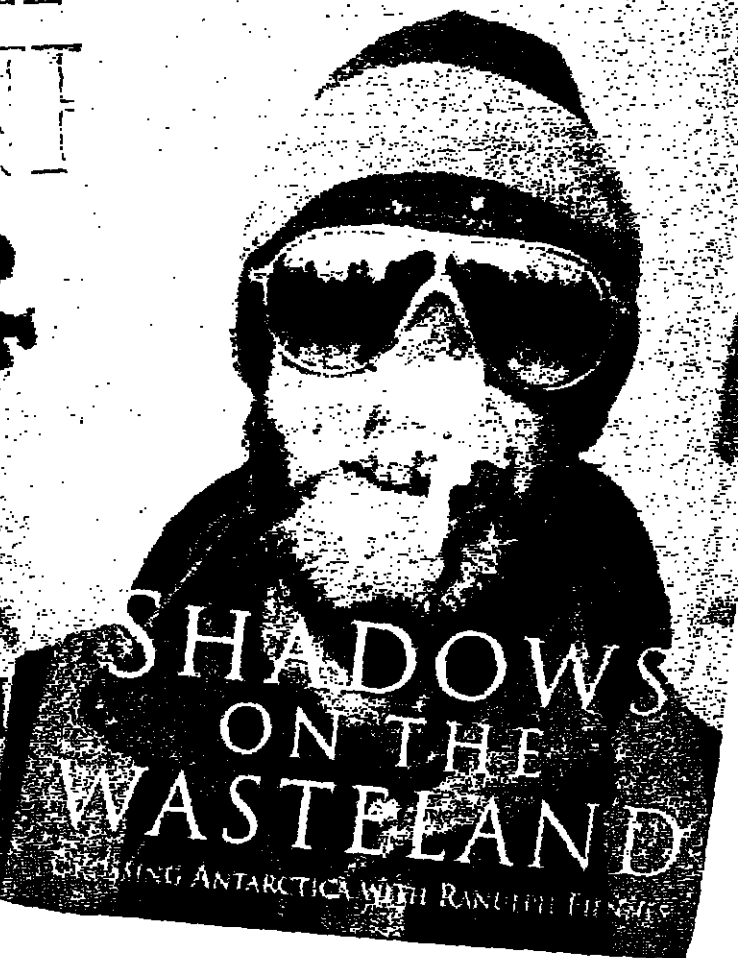
My crotch-rot reached the stage where both scrotum and inner thighs were raw and uncomfortable despite the daily application of Camesten powder. My cotton boxer shorts (which I wore under a pair of thin wick-away long Johns and some Army baggy cotton trousers) were continually rubbing up and exacerbating the raw patches.

I buried the pants, my only pair, and the crotch-rot did in due course begin to get better. But the remaining two protective layers of under-clothing were not enough even at sea level and, with the sharp winds off Berkner, my private parts were nipped and swelled up. When I mentioned this to Mike, it turned out that he was having the same problem, only worse, with a blistered end. He was circumsised and therefore, in effect, had one less layer of insulation. I made a note of this factor in terms of selecting future candidates for polar expeditions.

● An edited extract from *Mind over Matter* by Ranulph Fiennes, published by Sinclair-Stevenson at £16.99.

A review of both books appears on page 40

RANULPH FIENNES



Michael Stroud tells of pain and exhaustion in the blizzard — and finally a moment of understanding and remorse

MY ANGER WITH RAN WELLED UP AND FILLED ME WITH FURY

On Day 54, I had a bout of diarrhoea that was to cause the greatest difficulty in the journey so far. It was to alter our relationship profoundly and to precipitate a change in my trust and respect for Ran that would be very slow to recover.

We had set out as usual, but after a couple of hours I found myself repeatedly making stops, and with these urgent calls came stomach cramps and general weakness. Finally I told Ran that we would have to stop, but I didn't receive the anticipated sympathy. Instead, he was angry.

"How long for?" he said testily, with a distinct edge to his voice.

"I don't know, Ran, but it's obvious that I can't go on like this."

"All right, I don't mind, so long as when you're ready we finish the day and do the full number of hours."

"Ran, I may not be ready. I don't know how long this will go on for."

"Well, not now, but in a little while."

He deliberately misunderstood what I was saying. He didn't want to hear that I might not go on that day. We put up the tent in stilled

silence. I took Immodium tablets and tried to settle down in my sleeping bag. In the next 15 minutes I had to go out of the tent a couple of times, and each time I returned Ran asked if I was ready now. I ignored the questions and we became silent. Ran, seething about the enforced delay, concentrated on writing in his diary.

I woke after a couple of hours, feeling better and with the stomach cramps gone. I sat up with a view to making tea. I was not prepared for what Ran was to say.

"I've been working it out and I reckon that I could go on alone," he announced. "If you can't take it, I am not going to wait for you."

I listened in stunned silence. I was unable to believe what I was hearing. He hadn't finished.

"I have been feeling terrible for the last three weeks, and now, just as I get the bit between my teeth, you start holding things up. We're

close to the Pole and we could easily arrange for you to be picked up by one of the aircraft going to the other expeditions."

I started to feel the anger rising. From deep inside, it welled up to fill me with fury. I had been waiting for this man for the best part of two months as he did his stupid plod behind me. How did he dare to threaten me?

"You bastard!" I almost hissed. "There's no way that I am going to drop out now and let you go on alone, so don't even think it. It's you, not me, who can't take the pace. Now you'll just have to wait until I'm ready to go, like I've been waiting for you every day."

Ran suddenly looked shocked. I think he had surprised himself with what he had just done. For a few moments neither of us said anything. Then he spoke again, softly now and with remorse.

"I'm sorry, I don't know what I

was thinking of. It's just the frustration of having to stop when I had begun to feel better. I've felt so terrible for so long, and now, for the last few days, I've been feeling great again. Please believe it, I'm truly ashamed."

He was too. It was there in his voice, and his eyes, but at that moment it made little difference to me. I had seen a side of him that I didn't like one bit. The nasty side which I had heard about so long ago before I had met him, but which he had buried while I was fit and strong. Perhaps it was the Devil that drove him. I doubted that I would ever trust him not to do the same again.

We made the tea and prepared to set off. As we finished drinking, he suddenly said, "Mike, you're a real prick." I was writing at the time and couldn't help but make the contrast — in my diary I wrote: "Ran is a real prick."

One morning I looked in my sledge for the ski skins, but they were not there. I was horrified. Pulling without them would be impossible.

"I've lost the skins," I said to Ran. He didn't seem to be interested. He was leaning on his sticks, grey with pain. A deep ulcer was now eroding his forehead.

"They've gone," I repeated loudly. "I must have left them on the snow." He still didn't seem to register. He was looking down when he said: "It's terrible. Every morning it's bloody terrible. I don't know how much more of it I can take."

"Didn't you hear me? I've lost the skins. That's far more likely to stop the expedition than your bloody foot."

Ran looked up startled, even puzzled, and then I realised what I'd done. "I'm sorry," I said humbly. "That was as bad as you and the diarrhoea. I guess it's easy to make a prat of yourself out here."

"Yes," he replied thoughtfully. "Yes, it is."

● Extracted from *Shadows on the Wasteland* by Michael Stroud, published by Jonathan Cape at £14.99.

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For people who know rock & roll

October 15

سكنة من الاصل

Keeping healthy after a coronary ... running into trouble ... and a cure for constipation

In good heart

AN ATTACK of flu, or more probably a heavy cold, has delayed Michael Heseltine's return to his ministerial duties. His already slow return after his coronary thrombosis is not, it is reported, due to any complications but only to a desire to take advantage of the parliamentary recess to become fighting fit for the new session.

His opponents will doubtless mutter darkly about his health, but he should take comfort from the statistics, which are better than usually supposed.

Professor Brian Pentecost, of the British Heart Foundation, says that overall the death rate in the first year after a heart attack — the



MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford

worst year — is about 6 per cent, and there after about 4 per cent per year. The re-infection rate, a second coronary, is also about 6 per cent. The risk is not equal: older patients, whose hearts have had to tolerate a mis-spent middle-age as well as youth, do less well. Professor Pentecost says: "The length of time that the heart has been exposed to accepted risk factors — smoking, lack of exercise, high blood pressure and a raised cholesterol — must be significant, but a central factor is the amount of damage done to the heart muscle."

If there is any sign of heart failure, even transient failure after the attack, the patient is in a much



Heseltine: odds are good

higher risk group. Fortunately, those whose coronary thrombosis has left their hearts less than fully efficient can now be helped by taking ACE inhibitors — new drugs which treat both hypertension and heart failure.

Professor Pentecost says there is a good case for prescribing inhibitors for anybody who has had even a transient episode of failure after a coronary thrombosis. The latest statistics suggest that the mortality is reduced by 25 per cent.

Although heart failure can now be helped, it is more difficult to stop the formation of a new clot. Professor Pentecost teaches that a review of lifestyle is important. Patients should, unless there is some specific reason against it, be taking a daily aspirin, their blood pressure should be monitored, they should slim and, if diet does not control their cholesterol, use cholesterol-lowering drugs.

Most doctors would advise that patients who have had a coronary can still drink alcohol in modest amounts — two or three glasses of claret a day would be helpful for Mr Heseltine — but he will have to renounce chips.

Exposure to cold often precipitates a heart attack. Central heating should be left on at night, and cars should always be garaged on frosty nights — the inside of the car can be colder than the icebox in the refrigerator.

Mr Heseltine should be reassured that there is a 96 per cent chance that he will be speaking at the party conference again next year. Who, at 60, could expect better odds?

Athlete's hip



THE centre of Oxford was closed and ordinary life totally disrupted a fortnight ago by the running of the local half-marathon. Sitting in the traffic jam that the race had caused, I took the opportunity to read the *British Medical Journal*, which contained statistics on the effects of field and track events on the hip joints of athletes.

Research in Sweden has shown that a former athlete is nearly five times as likely to need a hip replacement as his or her more sedentary friends. If the athlete's later life involves strenuous activity, the chances of needing a new hip are nearly nine times as great.

The *Journal's* Hospital Update has also recently reviewed osteoarthritis. It reports that obesity increases the likelihood of knee and hand osteoarthritis. An over-

weight woman is seven times more likely to develop osteoarthritis of the knee than one of normal weight.

Interestingly, though, obesity has little influence on arthritis of the hip joint. Among the predisposing factors, other than obesity and trauma (including that from sporting activities), are diabetes and a family history. There is increasing evidence that there can be a genetically inherited tendency to develop osteoarthritis.

The old ways ...

WHEN my father married, he was presented with a senna tree by a patient who felt that no doctor's garden was complete without one. Senna is a north African tall shrub with bright yellow flowers which later form pods like inflated mangroves. The leaves of senna are of medical interest as they contain hydroxyanthracene glycosides, an efficient laxative.

The proprietary preparation for senna is made from purified natural sennosides taken from the

leaves of the Alexandrian senna. Seventy years ago, when my father married, constipation was a major concern of doctors. It is, however, an unglamorous subject which nowadays is rarely discussed. Even so, 20 per cent of people over the age of 65 suffer from it. The statistics are even worse for those patients who need admission for residential care: more than 75 per cent of those in long-stay hospitals are constipated.

The *British Medical Journal* reports that a recent survey in Belfast has shown that if a high fibre diet has not solved the problem, senna, when combined with a bulking agent such as ispaghula husk, Isogel or Pyogel, is significantly more effective and cheaper than modern preparations based on lactulose. Senna does not cause any more side-effects than sophisticated preparations.

Patients complaining of constipation, which is a symptom not of a disease, must be carefully examined before being treated, to exclude a range of diseases as diverse as cancer of the colon, underactive thyroids or Parkinson's.

Danger: not to be confused with flu

Fifty years ago the word "meningitis" struck fear into parents' hearts. Since then, with the advances in antibiotics and childhood vaccination, you would expect that fear to have disappeared. It has not — a fact that sets meningitis aside from all other infectious diseases of childhood. Meningitis can kill rapidly, in the worst cases within hours, hence the continuing anxiety.

The number of cases of meningitis and meningococcal disease is rising, and children are most at risk. In 1991 there were 540 deaths from meningitis, meningococcal infection — caused by the same bacteria as meningitis — and associated infections. This compares with 511 in 1990. Every year there are about 3,000 cases, with one in seven survivors left with a permanent handicap such as brain damage or deafness.

From this month onwards, doctors usually see cases of meningitis start to rise because children, back from their holidays, are mixing once again with large numbers of other children.

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Meningitis must be diagnosed and treated fast for it can be fatal, reports Aileen Ballantyne

In the past few years, according to Roger Finch, professor of infectious diseases at The City Hospital, Nottingham and Nottingham University, there has been an epidemic of meningococcal infections, with well over 1,000 cases last year alone. In the first quarter of this year, for example, the number of cases of meningococcal septicaemia, the most serious form of meningococcal infection, rose by 30 per cent compared with last year.

This rise has come just as the government has introduced a vaccine for children under four against Haemophilus influenza type B (Hib B), previously one of the commonest forms of meningitis in young children. The vaccine has brought a significant decrease in cases.

The particular strain responsible for causing the current epidemic of meningococcal infection, however, is the most difficult to produce a vaccine against. Professor Finch predicts that it could take four to seven years. Until a vaccine is produced against all types of meningitis and meningococcal infection, the only weapon against death and disability from the more serious forms is a thorough knowledge of the symptoms and a medical system that

allows a rapid and expert response. This is particularly important in relation to pre-school children, who are at highest risk and cannot describe their symptoms.

When Jamie Morgan, aged two, from Sevenoaks, in Kent, developed meningococcal septicaemia in May this year, his mother, Vanessa, immediately knew something was seriously wrong.

The previous day he had been running around, eating normally, laughing and playing, but when she went to his cot in the morning she found him totally changed. "He was just lying there. There was no response from him — he wasn't taking in anything I was saying," she says. He also had a fever and a severe rash.

Jamie was taken to a local hospital which quickly contacted the recently created Rapid Response Unit at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, west London. There, the paediatric intensive care unit, headed by Dr Parviz Habibi, has established a transport system that enables even the most critically ill patients with meningococcal disease to be taken to St Mary's from district hospitals. Doctors and nurses in the special intensive care unit are developing a high level of expertise in the management of such cases.

Dr Habibi and an intensive care nurse travelled by special ambulance to the hospital in Farnham, Kent, where Jamie's condition was deteriorating. By this time, in spite of antibiotic treatment, the toxins released by the bacteria had activated an intense inflammatory response. His kidneys had stopped functioning, his blood pressure was dangerously low, his left lung had collapsed and his heart was beating at twice the normal rate. Dr Habibi put his chances of survival at about 20 per cent.

After five hours, following stabilisation treatment, Jamie was transferred to the more specialised facilities available at St Mary's. After the transfer — an option often not available elsewhere due to lack of specialist transport — his condition continued to improve, and, after a few weeks in hospital and physiotherapy for the collapsed lung, Jamie recovered fully.

Many other patients, Dr Habibi points out, are not so fortunate. The optimal survival rate is not being achieved, he argues, because, unlike most other developed countries, Britain has no national provision for transporting critically ill children.

He estimates that of the 120 people (most of them children) who died of meningococcal septicaemia last year, about half could have survived with the right transport and back-up specialist systems. At



Specialist care helped Jamie Morgan, two, to survive meningococcal septicaemia

present, he says, whether or not a patient receives such treatment is a lottery.

The precise causes of meningitis and meningococcal infection remain unclear. Meningococci and other bacteria

such as Haemophilus influenza type B are carried in the nose or throat of about 10 per cent of the population. Most people who carry these organisms remain well, but very occasionally, for reasons

which are not well understood, the bacteria invade from the nose or throat into the blood and cause a severe illness.

Knowing when to call a doctor for a child is one of the best defences parents can

SYMPTOMS

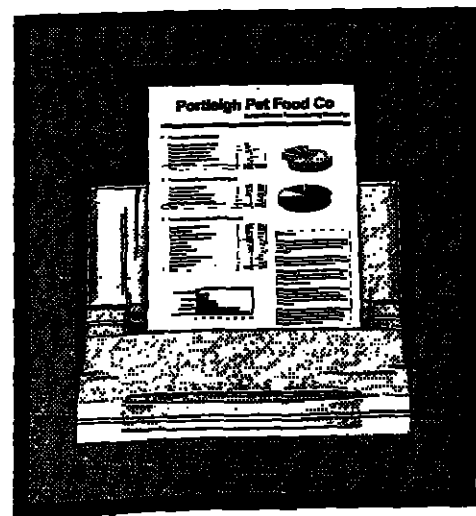
Fever/vomiting; severe headache; stiff neck and joints; dislike of bright lights; drowsiness; rash. Babies may also suffer: swelling of the fontanelle (soft spot on the head); blotchy or pale skin; staring expression; trance-like appearance; fretfulness; change in normal breathing; refusing feeds/becoming silent or withdrawn; shrill or moaning cry, especially when handled; rash anywhere on the body; involuntary jerking movements.

have. They should not be afraid to tell their GP that they believe their child may have meningitis. Many GPs will only ever see a tiny number of such cases and the symptoms are all too easily confused with flu or the common cold. The distinguishing feature is the degree of detachment in the child; parents get the feeling that, suddenly, their child has changed and is not responding as he or she normally does.

Professor Finch says: "You should be worried if your child develops a febrile illness which produces symptoms that are more severe than you have recognised beforehand in common coughs and cold. You should be worried, in particular, if your child doesn't like bright lights or if his conscious level is altered. By that I mean that he is not laughing or smiling normally and his behaviour is completely altered."

● The work of the St Mary's unit is featured in more detail in Cutting Edge: Cries of Alarm, on Monday at 9pm on Channel 4. The charity Meningitis Research runs a 24-hour telephone helpline (0844 413344).

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Janet Daley



■ The children of sexual liberation claim to be happy with their lot — but then they have to say that

People are increasingly likely to cohabit, divorce and have a second marriage; they are also more likely to be happy. Or so say the people with clipboards from the National Children's Bureau. On the face of it, the report published this week by the bureau looks like bad news for the Conservatives' moral crusade on family values. Most of the 33-year-old respondents do not, apparently, see the point of them at all (the values, that is — not the Conservatives). The people who were interviewed — what statisticians call the cohort — are a cross-section of the population born in a single week. As it happens, this is a group of greater historical interest than could possibly have been envisaged when the project began. For this generation, who grew up in the 1960s and 1970s, were the true children of the permissive era. They were deluged by the first flush of utopian optimism about sexual freedom, from their parents, their teachers and both high and low culture. Few groups could have been told more often or forcefully

Censuring any carnal behaviour was thought intolerant

So predictably, they do not condemn extramarital sex or illegitimate births, since these are both manifestations of the kind of freedom which they learnt was sacrosanct. (But then, they also learnt that censure of any kind of sexual behaviour was "intolerant" rather than "principled", so the failure to condemn anything at all was almost inevitable.) Understandably too, their actual behaviour has been influenced by this formative training.

Around a third of those living with their first spouses had cohabited before marriage, another quarter are cohabiting now, a large section were divorced by the age of 33, and about a fifth had lived with two or more partners. In whatever permutation the subjects found themselves, the overwhelming majority are happy. Or so they say.

But being ordinary mortals and not statisticians allows us to insert some intuitive sense into this: what does anecdotal experience tell us about protestations of happiness? Common decency suggests that to declare one's present relationship to be *unhappy*, especially to a stranger, would feel like gross disloyalty. Most people, even in the privacy of an anonymous form-filling exercise, will be loath to condemn their partnerships so definitively. Life with any other person involves moments of misery and moments of solace. Few who are not already in the throes of a break-up would be so

ungenerous as to damn their unions with the blanket term "unhappy".

Consistent with this interpretation is the fact that the category most willing to admit to unhappiness are single women who are cohabiting; those who saw the relationships they are in as unstable. Their answers may have been more vindictive or just more honest because they felt less obliged to be loyal to an uncommitted partner. Either way, their higher rate of confession to discontent is not surprising. Nor is it surprising, I would argue, although it has been considered newsworthy — that the happier people of all seemed to be those in second marriages.

They were more likely to describe themselves as happily conjointed than those who remain in first marriages. Strange this, given that second marriages are more likely to end in divorce than first ones: on the hard evidence, it is clear that many of these protestations of happiness will come to a sticky end.

So is this a testimony to the success of divorce liberalisation or isn't it? Are countless individuals being freed from the shackles of disastrous first marriages to find true bliss with their more judiciously chosen second partners?

And if so, why are they so much more likely to find themselves divorcing yet again? Let us apply a bit of our life experience once more. Might it not be that this ecstatic group who protest their happiness so noisily are simply determined to prove that the trauma through which they put themselves, their former partners and probably their children, was not in vain?

Happiness must be one of the most self-defining and self-fulfilling of human states. Wanting to believe that you are happy may indeed be very close to being happy. And feeling obliged to be happy because the pain that you have caused was brought about in the name of happiness may be even closer.

The report's authors themselves reflect that the contentment of the remarried may owe much to the temporary euphoria of recently-formed unions. But the triumphalist divorced classes — by their own account positively giddy with personal satisfaction — are also more likely to be those who believe strongly in the 1960s ideology of pursuing personal fulfilment through ever-changing relationships. They are probably among those with the largest investment in the credo of their age. If they were to find that it had not, after all, brought them happiness, what might that say about some of our fundamental modern beliefs and the price that has had to be paid for them?



— Woolf —

"I'LL HUFF & I'LL PUFF & I'LL BLOW YOUR HOUSE DOWN"

Proud to be English

The Anglican church embodies one of the greatest cultures in man's history

I enjoyed the first performance of Berlioz's *Messe Solenne*, which was shown on BBC2 on Tuesday night. It fitted between the *Nine O'Clock News* and Jeremy Paxman's vigorous grilling of Michael Howard. Berlioz wrote the Mass when he was a student; it seemed more successful in musical than in spiritual terms. The final passage would have made a proper accompaniment for a light cavalry charge led by one of Napoleon's more dashing marshals.

Earlier the same evening I had given the Olsen Lecture at St Bride's, Fleet Street. St Bride's is the traditional London church of journalists, and has remained so, even though Fleet Street has disappeared. I had been asked to give the lecture as the result of an article I wrote about the quiet virtues of the Church of England, after attending choral evensong in Westminster Abbey on the day of the unveiling of the Trollope memorial in Poets' Corner. The subject of my lecture was "English literature and the Church of England".

The Church of England is neither a romantic nor a revolutionary institution. Whereas Berlioz celebrates the French virtue of panache — his setting for the *Marseillaise* combines panache and pomp in equal proportions — the Church of England stands for the quiet virtues of moderation, peace, tranquillity, decency and order, the virtues of the cathedral close. These are indeed virtues on which the English used to pride themselves: the calm of an English village on a summer evening is still something which delights both us and foreign visitors. These are the virtues to which John Major was appealing in his speech at Blackpool. Yesterday Simon Jenkins quoted with some disapproval the prime minister's pledge: "The Conservative party will lead the country back across the board."

I found that pledge very acceptable, but then I have been waiting for 250 years for the return of a prime minister who made me feel as comfortable as Sir Robert Walpole. I have no desire to go back to the 1950s, which I actually experienced, but I would dearly like to go back to 1728, the year *The Beggar's Opera* was first performed, the year Alexander Pope published *The Dunciad*, the year Robert Adam was born. I doubt if even Mr Major's Conservative party can take us back that far. Perhaps, now that they have decided that judges should keep their wigs, it

would be right for cabinet ministers to wear wigs as well. Kenneth Clarke has a superbly 18th-century face, a real alderman's face, which a wig would round off nicely. Except for Virginia Bottomley, I cannot think of a member of the cabinet whom a wig would not improve.

Many members of the Church of England find it rather offensive to hear their church praised for these ancient and tranquil national virtues. My audience at St Bride's seemed sympathetic to my praise of the Book of Common Prayer — though in 1549 that was a revolutionary document — of the King James Bible, of the quiet Englishness of Isaac Walton, of Goldsmith's *The Vicar of Wakefield*, Trollope's *The Warden*, and John Betjeman's "Sunday Afternoon Service in St Enodoc Church, Cornwall". Yet members of the audience for my lecture were self-selected; I was flattered by the presence of Peter Brooke, the Secretary of State for Heritage, a man who could be trusted further than any of his colleagues to appreciate the conservative quality of the English character.

There are those who would say that the Church of England is much too national, and much too conservative, that the qualities which I regard as its chief virtues are actually its gravest faults, that it has surrendered to a nostalgic national decay when there are great evils in the world which need to be combated. They would not use the metaphor of St George and the dragon, because he is a nationalist, of doubtful authenticity, and unquestionably a militarist. In any case, either St George or the dragon, or maybe both, were male chauvinist pigs. Yet it is to the St George vocation that they would call the Church of England: they want the church to go dragon-hunting.

I concede that the Church of England does not express the whole truth — if I thought that, I would belong to it — and that the English national temperament does not include all the virtues. Nevertheless these quiet virtues of the Anglican

eccentrically English there is a psychological health in it. Isaac Walton, who was himself a prebendary of Salisbury Cathedral, wrote: "Let the blessing of St Peter's master be upon all that are lovers of virtue... and let the quiet and go angling..." and "reposterous yet endearing sentiment."

We live in the age of the decline of British power. At this interim stage we cannot hope to see the history of English culture as a whole, or make a final judgement on it. Yet this English culture is one of the great cultures of mankind — ranking with those of China, Greece and Rome — and has greater influence even than the French, which has been the other contender for influence in modern Europe. English literature is the richest in the history of the world. The English contribution to the development of democracy, of liberty, of law, of modern science and technology has been decisive and universal. The modern world is the result of the work of many nations, but the English contribution is among the most important. If one regards America as springing from English roots, it is the most important.

The Church of England is the form of Christianity which has had the most influence on this culture, and been most influenced by it. In the 20th century, the power that relates to this English culture has gone into steep decline. We are never again going to have the world position that Britain enjoyed in the 18th or 19th centuries, nor should we seek it. But the English values have not been invalidated by this fall from power.

The Church of England has nothing to regret about being English, indeed if it were not English it would have lost its function. Ideas do not lose their validity once the power to enforce them has disappeared. Our English culture is valuable, as Shakespeare's work is valuable, not because it is unique, but because it is a particular witness to universal truths. Christianity itself has survived many different structures of world power: it is not the Christianity of one time or place that endures. It is the Christian faith. The same is true of ideas which have been interwoven with Christianity, this English culture among them. Peace, justice, tolerance, good nature, democracy are the traditional virtues of the English polity; they are virtues built into the Church of England, and they are valued by many people outside that church.

This cultivation of an atmosphere of peace should not be regarded as a weakness, as a makeshift avoidance of necessary conflict, but as a contribution to good social relationships and as a preparation for prayer. Anglicans should be proud of it, rather than worried by it. Even at its most

William Rees-Mogg

no hope of friendly co-existence between communities which retain their own separate faiths and cultures. Nowadays the Church of England is not trying to change other people's ways of life. This may limit its evangelism, but may also permit friendly relationships which would not otherwise exist.

Peace is a spiritual as well as a moral virtue. The Church of England has a rather neglected history of high spirituality: at least two recent archbishops of Canterbury, Temple and Ramsey, have based their work on contemplative prayer. The mystical authors, inside and outside Christianity, all regard a stilling of the restless sea of human consciousness as a necessary preliminary to contemplation. The function of any Christian church is to help people to pray, to help them to relate to God. The Church of England has always been a good place in which to pray, and it still is.

This cultivation of an atmosphere of peace should not be regarded as a weakness, as a makeshift avoidance of necessary conflict, but as a contribution to good social relationships and as a preparation for prayer. Anglicans should be proud of it, rather than worried by it. Even at its most

Where jailing is failing

Ben Macintyre
on US disillusion at imprisonment

For two decades, the United States has indulged in an orgy of prison expansion, locking up its citizens at an unprecedented and frightening rate. The current US prison population stands close to a million, three times the figure for 1980 and still growing by 1,600 inmates a week. According to one estimate, America now has a higher percentage of its population behind bars than any other country.

"We have embarked on the largest social experiment in punishment in the history of the world," Todd Clear, an American criminal justice scholar, told a recent conference on crime policy. Judged by its own intentions, the experiment has failed miserably. America spends \$30 billion a year on its prisons; the overall rate has remained virtually unchanged, but violent crimes have risen 40 per cent in a decade.

Lord Woolf's attack this week on the government's "tough on crime" initiative, in which he cited America's bulging jails as evidence that a policy of incarceration breeds more inmates than fewer criminals, is being echoed in Washington, where the behind-bars philosophy has been openly challenged for the first time in a generation.

The most outspoken critic is none other than Janet Reno, the American attorney general — a lone Woolf, so to speak, in the Clinton administration. Ever since she took responsibility for the disastrous FBI raid on the Branch Davidian cult in Waco, her popularity has rocketed — which could only happen in a country where taking the flak is considered rather more important than performing effectively.

Ms Reno is what American penologists call a "root cause" and conservatives call a touchy-feely liberal. She advocates better education, a reformed welfare system, improved child nutrition and drug-treatment programmes. Prevention, rather than punishment and detention, is her goal. In her own words, spoken after the recent rash of killings in Florida, "If the attorney general can think about prenatal care before she thinks about more prisons, that's got to tell you something."

What it tells the White House is that the person in charge of the Justice Department is not toeing the line. In his crime package, unveiled last August when he stood in desperate need of a popularity boost, Bill Clinton proposed expanding the death penalty, putting more cops on the beat and stressing punishment above rehabilitation. This sort of initiative has never failed to win votes in the past, be the government Democrat or Republican.

Meanwhile, Ms Reno, an opponent of the death penalty, is exploring ways to bring the prison population down, or at least slow its rate of increase, specifically by eliminating the mandatory minimum prison terms established during the Bush administration's "War on Drugs", which pushed imprisonment to an all-time peak.

While advocating stiff sentences for hard-core offenders, reformers of the Reno stamp argue that too many lesser lawbreakers are sent to prison, where they are more likely to end up as habitual criminals.

Crime, fed by the vast profits and incentives of the drug trade, is very nearly out of control in America. But then so is the bloated prison system. Experience of prison life is now so deeply-rooted in the culture of the American inner-city ghetto that it has ceased to deter. A spell inside, and the ability to tough it out, is widely regarded as a badge of achievement among the many thousands enmeshed in the illegal drugs industry.

Still worse is on the way. The number of people aged between 15 and 19, the most criminally-inclined demographic band, will grow by 23 per cent by the year 2005. So even if the prison system continues to expand at the present rate, it will be swamped. The type of policies advocated by Ms Reno and Lord Woolf may well be those of the future, not because of a heartfelt change of governmental philosophy, but because compared to building and staffing more prisons, they are cheap.

In California and South Carolina, newly-built prisons now stand unoccupied, not because of low crime, but because those states have run out of money to staff and maintain them. It costs approximately \$25,000 a year to imprison an American criminal, and reformers argue that education and drug-treatment for non-violent offenders could reduce costs by as much as 75 per cent.

Americans are deeply worried about the appalling level of crime in their country, but relative to other preoccupations, such as health care and taxes, they are somewhat less concerned than they were. A sluggish economy has concentrated the mind of the average American taxpayer wonderfully.

President Clinton may have offered a sop to the crack-down-on-crime lobby, but the wind is blowing in favour of Janet Reno. Any solution, more and more people are starting to believe, must be better (and cheaper) than building (and filling) more

Taxing times

KENNETH CLARKE'S November Budget has the nation trembling with fears of tax increases. But thanks to Norman Lamont, the new Chancellor is planning, at least, to spare us any excise duty increases on liquor prior to our Christmas festivities.

This is not to say that beer, wine and spirits are likely to escape the Chancellor's eagle eye. But under the formula inherited from his predecessor, higher cigarette and petrol prices would come into effect on Budget day while increases in beer, wine and spirits will be delayed until January 1.

Clarke has already hinted at increases in excise duties on alcohol, cigarettes and petrol. But the problem was always when to impose them, bearing in mind that Budget day on November 30 is horribly close to Christmas. Norman Lamont always considered the problem a "ticking time-bomb", and, whisky may be, he is, insisted that the tax increases should not come into effect until the new year.

The Budget might sit well among new year's eve revellers with a thirst for resolution, but the drinks industry is adamant that it

has suffered enough from assorted chancellor's in the past.

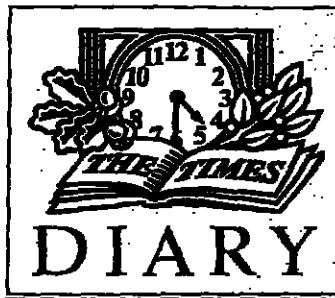
"I would hope he doesn't put tax up at all and that he starts to bring it down," says a spokesman for the Brewers Society. "People are going across to the Continent to buy their drink, and we have a little thing called the Channel tunnel opening soon."

Cabinet? No thanks

IF THE government whips expect their maverick MP Rupert Allason to toe the line from next week when the Commons returns, they can forget it. The unrepentant spy-writer continues to draw fire by insisting that Scott's arms-to-Iraq enquiry will force four cabinet ministers to resign.

Top of his list is William Waldegrave, who admitted this week that he made a "wrong judgment". Malcolm Rifkind is also doomed apparently, while the behaviour of Kenneth Clarke and Michael Heseltine was "indefensible", according to Allason. His fifth "culprit", Tristan Garel-Jones, has of course already opted for the back-benchers.

"This is going to be a serious



problem for the government. I told the whips that earlier in the summer," says the man who refused to turn up to "awful" Blackpool last week for the conference.

The leadership has yet to restore the Tory whip, which was withdrawn in July when Allason failed to turn up for the vote of confidence in John Major. But the Tory MP appears relaxed enough. "Anyway, the idea of being driven to work in a ministerial Allegro fills me with horror."

All in a name

SPARE a thought for our man in Moscow, Sir Brian Fall — for his empire is fast disappearing. The newly independent state of Belarus, over which he has had charge since his appointment in 1992, has just been appointed the

own ambassador by the Foreign Office.

At 36, John Everard, the man for Minsk, is believed to be the youngest ambassador to have been on the circuit for at least 50 years. "I am still looking for a suitable place to live," he says, anticipating months of unsettled life in hotels.

Of more concern, however, to the new state's foreign minister, Petr Krauchenka, who was visiting Britain yesterday, is that his country should be named correctly. Belarus is out, he says. The new name, he says firmly, is Belarus.

Meanwhile, Poland's ambassador, Tadeusz de Viron, is due to be recalled as President Lech Walesa installs a new coalition government. A replacement may take some time. "There has been no parliament operating during the summer, and there is no foreign affairs committee," says the embassy. "It may take months."

Bat, pad and saddle

IF England's cricket captain, Michael Atherton, appears distracted on the West Indies tour in January, there is an explanation. Along with a number of fellow players including Ian Botham, he has been invited to a brown which

promises to be racing just as the Test series starts.

Atherton has joined the new Professional Cricketers' Racing Club, which has just bought its first colt, now training in Newmarket. Since *Spin Bowler* and *Maiden Over* were already taken, the chosen name is *On The Pull* — apparently a cricketing term.

Nick Cook of Northamptonshire is the driving force behind the idea. "Racing is always on the TV when you go into the cricket dressing-room, and I thought everyone would have a bit of money with the end-of-season bonus," he says. But could Atherton's first equestrian interest spell trouble for the England team? Mike said he'll probably get a fax just as he's briefing the

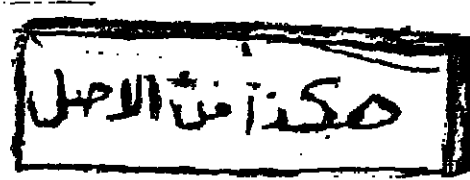
team, saying that the horse is on at 10 to 1," says Cook. "That would be a very nice distraction if things aren't going our way on the pitch."

Café society

COMPETITION among London's restaurants has caught up with the River Café, a fashionable Hammersmith dining haunt designed in a faintly spartan manner by Sir Richard Rogers. Lady Rogers, his wife, joint proprietor and one of the excellent chefs, says a redesign is needed to create a homely atmosphere.

Planning applications have been submitted, and an architect, one Richard Rogers, has been appointed. "We are trying to make it better with a change of architecture," she says. "We are trying to make it more comfortable."

Victory for Nigel Short in his 16th game against Garry Kasparov, in the world chess championship, has understandably raised hopes that he may turn the tide against his rival. But the string of earlier draws and defeats appears to have got to him. In the current issue of *The Oldie* magazine, Short notes that life is overrated, and says that on the other side he would like to meet "nothing but



OBITUARIES

TAMARA TALBOT RICE

Tamara Talbot Rice, art historian, died in Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucestershire, on September 24 aged 89. She was born in St Petersburg on July 2, 1904.

AS AN art historian born in Russia Tamara Talbot Rice possessed that instinctive feeling for her subject which no amount of conscientious study can quite match. She also had a long experience of Western artists and writers to lift her out of the rut of provinciality. Her husband was the archaeologist David Talbot Rice and her friends at Oxford included Evelyn Waugh and Harold Acton.

Tamara Abelson, as she was then known, escaped the worst horrors of the Russian revolution with her mother, making her way down through Finland before settling in London in a rented flat near the Albert Hall. She won an exhibition to St Hugh's, Oxford, to read Modern Greats, and duly took her place there but was so disheartened by the Draconian regime, the dampness of her quarters and the depressing college food that by the second year she had made herself a "home student" and found digs in town.

Her introduction to Evelyn Waugh's inner circle had been inauspicious. Feeling under the weather in her first year, she stumbled into what she took to be a doctor's waiting room (Dr H.E. Counsell's name was on the brass plate). Counsell, known to all as "Doggins", in fact played host to the OUDS most evenings and, through him, Tamara



met her future husband, David Talbot Rice, as well as Harold Acton and Evelyn Waugh and many of those later to be immortalised in *Brideshead Revisited*. Tamara and Waugh quickly became friends and, when Waugh's first marriage broke down in 1929, it was to her and David (then living in Paris) that he turned for comfort.

Tamara's husband belonged to that great English tradition of amateurs who, while never becoming pedants, managed to combine their breadth of interest with exacting standards of scholarship. Moreover, his interest in Byzantine art perfectly complemented her own knowledge of Russian art. Despite a very understated courtship on his part, Tamara had no hesitation in accepting Rice when he finally proposed in 1927.

They were married and early the following year travelled to Istanbul on the first of their many trips abroad. After a spell in Paris studying under Gabriel Millet, an expert on Byzantine art, Rice was appointed as a very young Watson-Gordon Professor of the History of Fine Art at Edinburgh University in 1934. During holidays he and Tamara made further expeditions to Greece, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Georgia and Iran in search of Byzantine treasures, all of which were described in Tamara's diaries in typically hyperbolic fashion.

From the 1950s she published works on such arcane subjects as the Seljuks of Asia Minor and the Scythians, as well as *Russian Icons* (1964) and *Icons and their Dating* (1975), the latter co-authored with her husband. For the non-specialist she wrote *A Concise History of Russian Art* (1963) and a flattering biography of Peter the Great's daughter, *Elizabeth Empress of Russia* (1970), which attempted to balance out previous indictments of her as a lazy and licentious woman.

A widow for the last twenty years, Tamara continued as an energetic hostess in her Cotswold cottage, treating guests to a stream of anecdotes, gossip and opinions, all delivered in a still surprisingly pronounced Russian accent. She is survived by her son and two daughters.

GARY BALL

Gary Ball, New Zealand mountaineer, died of altitude sickness in the Himalayas on October 6 aged 40.

TOGETHER with Rob Hall, his long-time climbing partner, and a European climber, Gary Ball was at 24,114ft, preparing for an assault on the peak of the 26,795ft Mount Dhaulagiri, the world's seventh-highest mountain, in Nepal, when he fell ill with pulmonary oedema, or high altitude sickness. The three men immediately began to climb back down but Ball died within 24 hours.

Last year he suffered a

similar illness on K2, the world's second-highest peak. He narrowly escaped death and had to be evacuated from the mountain.

Ball and Hall earned international recognition in 1990 for a "Seven Summits" adventure when they climbed the highest peaks of seven of the world's regions in seven months. They also took part in five Everest expeditions.

Ball was a highly respected professional who had been employed by four governments as an alpine guide and safety consultant. He and Hall led the way in developing guided tours to the summit of Mount Everest.

WILLIAM CARBONELL

William Carbonell, CMG, former Commissioner of Police in the Federation of Malaya, died on September 30 aged 81. He was born on August 14, 1912.

IT WAS almost exactly 40 years ago that General Sir Gerald Templer, High Commissioner and Director of Operations in Malaya, hand-picked Bill Carbonell as the country's next chief of police. Carbonell was then aged only 41 and of relatively low seniority among those officers who might have aspired to the top job. But he had won Templer's total confidence during the previous year during which he had been in charge of the newly formed and prestigious Special Branch. He thus found himself commanding a force of as many as 70,000 policemen at the height of the so-called emergency in Malaya, when the government was beset by communist rebels.

One of Carbonell's virtues which had brought him to Templer's notice was his insistence — both as a superintendent and as an assistant commissioner — on personally leading his men on armed sorties in the jungle, far away from the fan-assisted comfort of his office. He was also, however, an efficient and diplomatic administrator, fluent in Malay and devoid of any self-seeking ambition, which made him seem the ideal candidate to prepare the force for Malayan independence in four years' time. He represented the acceptable face of colonialism.

Born in Battersea, London, William Leicester Rouse Carbonell was the son of a businessman in the burgeoning motor trade — though the family, which first came to Britain with William the Conqueror, had made its name in the 18th century as royal wine merchants. Young William went to Shrewsbury School where he was captain of boats, then to St Catherine's College, Cambridge, to read geogra-



At Malaya's first investiture, in 1958, the Paramount Ruler presents the Panglima Mangku Negara to William Carbonell

phy. He also won a rowing Blue as bow in one of the winning light blue crews of the early 1930s. Less happily, he had to be helped financially by his college when his father's business suddenly collapsed. For many years later, Carbonell was paying back what he owed.

He joined the colonial service on leaving Cambridge and after being offered a post in the Malay police, studied at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London.

He then went to the training academy in Kuala Lumpur, before serving in a succession of police stations, mainly in the remote parts of Eastern Malaya, gaining experience as a probationary assistant commissioner.

His career was then interrupted by the war. Interned in 1942 by the Japanese, he spent

three-and-a-half years in the notorious Changi Jail, which plucked his reserves of good humour and morale. Shortly after his return to Malaya in 1946, he was caught up in the developing emergency.

At the outset, he was a superintendent based in Kedah state, collecting intelligence as well as taking part in active missions. Then came rapid promotion. In 1952 he moved to take command as assistant commissioner in Kelantan, only to be recalled to Kuala Lumpur in the same year and put in charge of the Special Branch — a key job in the fight against terrorism given the ever-growing requirement for intelligence.

Twelve months later, Templer chose him as commissioner. Already holding the King's Police Medal and the Colonial Service Medal, he

was appointed a CMG in 1956. Meanwhile the Malayan government conferred on him the high national honour of PMN.

By the time he took early retirement in 1958, one year after Malayan independence, Carbonell had strengthened and modernised the police force and made a significant contribution to the final defeat of the insurgents. Still only 46, he became a business consultant in Britain on his return, before retiring for a second time in the 1960s.

A quiet, unassuming man, who still believed in qualities like loyalty and service, Bill Carbonell settled with his family in Hampshire. He is survived by his wife Dargen, who, as an Australian nurse working in Malaya, looked after him during a period he spent in hospital as a young man, and by their two sons.

BEE SCHENKEN



Bee Schenken with her husband, Howard

Bee Gale Schenken, bridge champion, died in New York on October 5 aged 77. She was born in Gary, Indiana, on October 3, 1916.

BEE GALE, as she then was, did not take up tournament bridge until she was nearly 40, but she proved to win almost everything in sight, including Howard Schenken, considered the world's leading exponent of both rubber bridge and duplicate. Schenken had had love affairs but this was his first marriage and he was delighted with the ready-made family with which she presented him, already including grandchildren.

The woman who attracted him was impulsive and unpredictable at the bridge table, with little more than a sound knowledge of technique but renowned for what Americans call table presence; a receptivity

to ambient phenomena such as intonations and hesitations. Schenken himself was cool, urbane and the perfect technician, although he, too, always knew what was going on around the table.

Bee's first marriage had been to Dr Joseph Gale, a nose and throat specialist who

practised in Chicago. They had two daughters, but he was crippled in a car crash. She tended him devotedly and found relaxation in rubber bridge. Schenken became a family friend after he had met Bee at her first tournament in 1954, and had later been introduced by America's "Mr Bridge," Charles Goren, at a chance meeting at Goren's Miami home.

Investment tips from men of affairs who enjoyed playing bridge against "the expert" had made Schenken comfortably off and he was able to help with Dr Gale's heavy medical expenses. Gale died in 1958 and Bee married Schenken the following year.

Almost immediately they won the national mixed pairs championship, and their partnership became the leading husband-and-wife combination. Bee herself winning six more national titles, all in women's events. Schenken had already won every major trophy, including the first three world championships. Together they toured on bridge cruises, and from their

Manhattan East Side apartment travelled frequently to wherever the fashionable set played bridge: Deauville, Hollywood, the Riviera, Palm Springs and St Moritz were on their regular itinerary. Schenken frequently indulged Bee's liking for the limelight, letting her share the byline of his syndicated column.

She revelled in their friendships with Hollywood celebrities such as Chico Marx, Billy Wilder and Lorne Green, and with tycoons — including the Wall Street figure, Jack Dreyfus, whose tip for a new company, Polaroid, had freed Schenken from the shackles of earning his living as a bridge host.

In 1971 a London casino promoted an invitation tournament, billing it as the individual bridge championship of the world. Howard's influence got Bee invited, but she entered the betting as the 66-1 outsider in a field where Omar Sharif was among the 8-1 joint favourites.

Unexpectedly, some useful each-way bets were placed on her. No less surprisingly, she won. From the gate like a jack rabbit, leading until the last session when her nerve failed and Sharif came through to win. The bets were suspected to have come from certain of her opponents who chanced to have played unusually badly against her. Thereafter the bookmaking fraternity lost interest in bridge tournaments as a possible source of revenue.

Schenken considered his wife so outstanding at rubber bridge that he issued a standing challenge to any married couple in North America. The challenge endured until he died in 1979 aged 73.

PETER DAVIES

Peter Davies, OBE, British Council representative and later Director of the Anti-Slavery Society, 1959-67, died on October 9 aged 74. He was born on October 4, 1919.

PETER DAVIES spent most of his working life with the British Council and it was not until his retirement from that body in 1980 that he became director of the Anti-Slavery Society for the Protection of Human Rights.

This is the oldest human rights organisation in the world, founded in 1839 on the ashes of the Wilberforce Society. It fell to Davies to rid it of its quaint 19th-century image and address it to the very real problems of today — issues such as the debt bondage system in India and the exploitation of child labour. Extremely friendly and outgoing, Davies was in his element in such a role — making speeches, writing scores of letters to *The Times* and energetically fund-raising. The BBC made him the subject of its documentary on slavery in Mauritania in 1983.

Davies's last posting for the British Council in Calcutta had drawn his attention to the appalling conditions of child labour working in the local carpet industry. Human rights, Davies argued, were as practical a matter as food or clothing, and as such should be available to all.

He was a cheerfully pessimistic man in his work — cheerful in his daily tasks, but deeply worried about the industrialisation of the developing world which could only, he felt, improve the lifestyle of the top tier of society. "You can pour huge sums of money into Africa but it won't make them all nice and middle-class like the Germans or us," he would say. Instead, he argued for a more philosophical approach to Third World problems, one based on religious tolerance and respect for indigenous cultures.

Roger Peter Havard Davies never lost the physique of a rugby player. As a strapping, 14-year-old open scholar at Bromsgrove School in 1933, he proved to be a talented linguist and tenor chorister, but was also the heaviest forward in the school's rugby XV of 1937.

Afterwards he went up to St Edmund Hall, Oxford, to read modern languages but the war interrupted his studies. Twice wounded in the North African and Italian campaigns, he returned as a Royal Artillery reconnaissance pilot with the

rank of captain. After a spell in the army of occupation, where his fluent German was more than useful, he was demobilised and finished his degree.

Determined to make himself an East European expert, he toyed with the idea of becoming a journalist specialising in that area. Instead, he found a job with the British Council in 1949, with the intention of getting a posting to Hungary. He stayed on with the organisation for thirty years — through its expulsion from Hungary and stints in Tel Aviv, Finland, Sarawak and Chile (during the Allende coup). Bromsgrove contemporaries who recalled his rendering of "Lord God of Abraham" in the Memorial Chapel and his role as Bernard Shaw's Devil's Disciple were not surprised to learn that music, linguistics and the arts were included in Davies's brief. Wherever he found himself, he added more songs to his musical repertoire, and became fluent in the language.



He came back to Britain as Director of Public Relations and Information before his final posting in Calcutta where he was appointed OBE prior to his retirement in 1980.

Davies finally retired from the Anti-Slavery Society in 1987, though he then took on the chairmanship of the United Kingdom Human Rights sub-committee of the United Nations Association. In 1988 he edited *Human Rights*, a book of articles by activists, and the classic reference work on the subject.

The grinning of much of his work never robbed Davies of his dry sense of humour nor of his taste for the good life: he enjoyed champagne, good restaurants, and escaping to the local golf course whenever he could. He is survived by his wife Ferelith and their two sons and two daughters.

SYDNEY ARNOLD

Sydney Arnold, actor, has died aged 93. He was born on February 21, 1900.

JAMES ELWARD, the playwright, called him "the consummate professional". For more than 60 years, Sydney Arnold used his size to advantage. The diminutive character actor — he was only 5ft 11in tall — may well be best remembered as a street pedlar in the Academy Award-winning film, *Oliver*.

Although his fortes were pantomimes and farce, he sometimes took more serious roles as in *War and Peace* and *Crime and Punishment*, the latter being produced at Leicester's Haymarket Theatre in 1978. Two years later, at the age of 80, Arnold made his final stage appearance. It was hardly a serious one — he played George in Paul Raymond's *Whitehall* Theatre production of *Wot No Pyjamas*. His theatre career had begun nearly 60 years earlier as a boy player in Robert Courtneidge's production of *Ian Hay's A Safety Match* in 1921.

In addition to *Oliver*, Arnold's other film appearances included Jerry Lewis's *One More Time*, which

started Sammy Davis, Jr. and Peter Lawford; and in the Monty Python short *The Crimson Permanent Assurance*.

In the United States, Arnold's television credits included roles in early productions of Kraft Television Theatre. In Britain he had roles in *84, Charing Cross Road*; *The Sweeney*; *Good Companions*; *Robin's Nest*; *Miss Jones and Son*; and *The Benny Hill Show*.

Arnold's marriage to the actress Audrey Blinham ended in divorce. He had suffered from Alzheimer's disease for the last five years of his life.



ON THIS DAY
October 14 1895

The French composer Charles Gounod said that some of Mrs Alexander's hymns, which included "All things bright and beautiful", "Once in Royal David's City" and "There is a green hill far away", seemed to set themselves to music.

Mrs. CECIL FRANCES ALEXANDER, so well known as "C.F.A.," died at the Palace, Londonderry, at 6 o'clock on Saturday evening after a few weeks' illness. She was born in county Wicklow in 1818, and was the daughter of Major John Humphreys, who served with distinction at the battle of Copenhagen and was afterwards a landed proprietor and extensive land agent in Ireland. In 1847 she married the Rev. William Alexander, who became Bishop of Derry and Raphoe in 1867. In all religious and charitable works in Londonderry and the diocese she took a wise and energetic part. She possessed a simple and straightforward dignity of manner. Among the poor and aged she was loved with pathetic intensity. It is, however, upon her writings that Mrs. Alexander's extended fame is built. She had a natural bent for poetry, and her early intimacy with Keble and Hook stamped her mind with a lasting impression. Her "Hymns for Little Children" and "Moral Songs" have had an immense circulation. Her less widely known "Poems on Old Testament Subjects" reach a loftier practical standard, but it is by certain of her hymns especially that she will be remembered. Of several of these Gounod said that they seemed to set themselves to music. Six only need be indicated — "The Roseate

VESSEL DAMAGED BY A WHALE—A Rouer dispatch says that details have reached Plymouth, by the Orient Line steamer Orient, which arrived yesterday of a strange occurrence at sea in Australian waters. The brigantine *Handa Isler* arrived at Sydney Harbour on September 1 from New Zealand presenting the appearance of having been struck by a heavy sea. At midday on August 24 two large whales were sighted, each being about 60ft. in length. At first they appeared to be heading across the ship's bows, but they suddenly slewed round and came broadside on to the ship at a tremendous speed. The first whale struck the ship amidships and, although the vessel is 260 tons register and was laden with nearly a million feet of timber, the concussion was so great that the vessel shook from stern to stern. The second whale, fortunately, did not ram the ship, but dived just before reaching the *Handa Isler*, and passed under the keel. The brigantine was badly damaged by the collision and the whale must have been terribly injured, as the sea around was speedily dyed with its blood. The well of the ship was at once sounded, and it was discovered that the water was making at the rate of a foot an hour. As the water gained on the pumps the dock cargo was jettisoned, but continued pumping enabled the crew to finally get the vessel clear.

DOMESTIC & CATERING SITUATIONS

SOUTH OF FRANCE Live in, 12 months, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683, 2684, 2685, 2686, 2687, 2688, 2689, 2690, 2691, 2692, 2693, 2694, 2695, 2696, 2697, 2698, 2699, 2700, 2701, 2702, 2703, 2704, 2705, 2706, 2707, 2708, 2709, 2710, 2711, 2712, 2713, 2714, 2715, 2716, 2717, 2718, 2719, 2720, 2721, 2722, 2723, 2724, 2725, 2726, 2727, 2728, 2729, 2730, 2731, 2732, 2733, 2734, 2735, 2736, 2737, 2738, 2739, 2740, 2741, 2742, 2743, 2744, 2745, 2746, 2747, 2748, 2749, 2750, 2751, 2752, 2753, 2754, 2755, 2756, 2757,

● Female businesswomen spurned ● Hotel loyalty scheme ● Record rain in France

Hostility to women travellers remains

By MARIANNE CURPHEY

WOMEN business travellers encounter hostility from hotel and airline staff, dislike dining alone and stay away from bars to avoid being mistaken for high-class prostitutes, according to a new survey.

They want more women-only airport lounges and hotel floors; list their most essential travel items as a briefcase, comfortable shoes, diary and laptop computer; and believe they are not sufficiently targeted by airline advertising.

The survey of readers of *Executive Woman*, a magazine for middle-management and senior professionals, found women on working trips wanted more information about airline services, special offers, local taxi prices, advice on personal safety and recommendations for hotels catering specifically for them.

Angie Givon, the managing editor, says: "Hotels are still failing to provide a decent service for women, and I have received hundreds of letters telling horror stories of women's experiences at the hands



Women executives prefer room service to restaurants — so hotels are losing good business

of both hotel and airline staff." Ms Givon estimates that by the year 2000 the numbers of women business travellers will have doubled from the present 25 per cent.

She says the most common complaints from the magazine's 15,500 subscribers are that they receive slow service, unfriendly treatment by staff and are given the worst table in hotel restaurants.

Three years ago, in an effort to reverse the trend, she established a scheme to improve hotel service and to draw managers' attention to the hassles and indignities women executives suffer. To her disappointment, only 50 in Britain have signed up, although she is presently negotiating with a French company.

"Those hotels which have joined are reaping the benefits, but sadly many more are still behind the times, and they are losing money because of it."

Before our most recent survey, we carried out some market research and found 60 per cent of women customers order room service. This compares with 3 per cent of men.

"Hotels should wake up to the fact that it is in their interest to encourage women to eat downstairs: a room-service cheese sandwich does not bring in as much revenue as a full meal."

Ms Givon's scheme, Facilitator, keeps a contact directory of participating hotels that are prepared to introduce women guests to one another on a professional basis to eat or have a drink together.

Ann Jones, sales and operations director for the Dominion hotel, Manchester, supports the scheme. "I believe it is a brilliant idea — there are a lot of female travellers on their

own who would like someone to talk to, but feel a bit vulnerable about going to the bar alone," she says.

In America, research shows women spend almost as long on a business trip as men: three days away as opposed to 3.3 days for men.

The American-owned Marriott Corporation says women account for 31 per cent of business travel room nights among guests booking in for five nights or more. Elaine Ellis, a spokeswoman for the company, says: "There are already suites in American hotels for long-stay guests which aim to introduce businesswomen to one another and make them feel more at

home during organised social evenings for two hours every evening.

"Marriott does not believe women want rooms that are vastly different from those for men, but all hotel rooms have skirt hangers and most have irons and ironing boards."

Audrey Chessell, senior sales executive for Australian Airlines, says better planning could make hotels safer for women. "There is actually more of an attitude problem among employees of establishments in northern Europe — for example in France and Germany."

"In Latin countries and in India, Jordan and Syria, I have always found staff at four

and five-star hotels to be polite and actually rather intimidated by a businesswoman."

"There is, however, the potential for embarrassment when entertaining a male client. Waiters habitually hand the bill to the man, even when I have ordered the food and wine."

Hotels are not the only culprits. A Mintel report on airlines found frequent-flyer businesswomen dissatisfied with their treatment and warned: "Given the increasing number of businesswomen holding management posts, airlines cannot afford to alienate any of their customers, particularly a group so fundamental as women."

Hotels to reward frequent guests

By DAVID CHURCHILL

LEADING hotel chains are bringing in loyalty programmes for frequent business travellers similar to the successful schemes run by airlines.

Inter-Continental Hotels last week launched its Global Business Options scheme in 80 of its hotels to capitalise on the recovery in business travel in Britain and America. The scheme offers the choice of room upgrades, \$25 a day towards mini-bar or telephone costs, or a gift such as Tiffany cologne.

Holiday Inn, the world's largest hotel chain, is also poised to re-launch its Priority Club. Hyatt, which has operated its Gold Passport scheme for some time, is presently surveying members about their needs before contemplating a re-launch.

"Hotels are certainly catching up on their airborne colleagues in terms of frequent guest rewards," Bill Kirkwood, director of sales and marketing for Thomas Cook Travel Management, says. "The main difference is that they largely give a benefit that is immediately redeemable, such as a room upgrade or fast check-out."

Although hotels have paid lip-service for some years to rewarding frequent guests, their efforts have been minimal. In America in the mid-

1980s, many hotels launched copy-cat schemes when the airlines started their frequent-flyer programmes — but they soon floundered.

Now, however, the international hotel chains have developed their computer reservation systems and databases to enable a more sophisticated approach. While not as advanced as airline systems, hotels can capture the data on who stays where and when — and offer rewards as a result.

What kick-started hotel loyalty schemes in America again — and is likely to do so in Europe, too — has been links with airline programmes. Business travellers who stay in the US with chains such as Marriott, Hyatt, Sheraton and Holiday Inn will get extra mileage points with airlines

such as American, United and Delta.

Hilton, for example, gives a 1,500-mile bonus with United Airlines for every stay in a Hilton (or Conrad in Europe) hotel. With the new Holiday Inn scheme, it is expected that extra mileage points (with Delta, Northwest and United) will be gained according to length of hotel stay and the amount spent on food and beverages: broadly 24 mileage points for every dollar spent.

While tapping into airline schemes has given hotel programmes a boost, hoteliers have also extended the service benefits on offer. Membership of loyalty schemes gives repeat customers extras such as access to concierge floors, free newspapers, bathrobes and express check-outs.

Some schemes also enable frequent guests to accumulate points to qualify for rewards such as hampers, jewellery and wine. But Hyatt, for example, has found that most guests now want their rewards in the form of airline mileage points or better hotel service.

Several groups — such as Forte Crest — also offer schemes for secretaries who book rooms for their bosses, which enable them to earn points towards free accommodation for themselves.



Bill Kirkwood: catching on

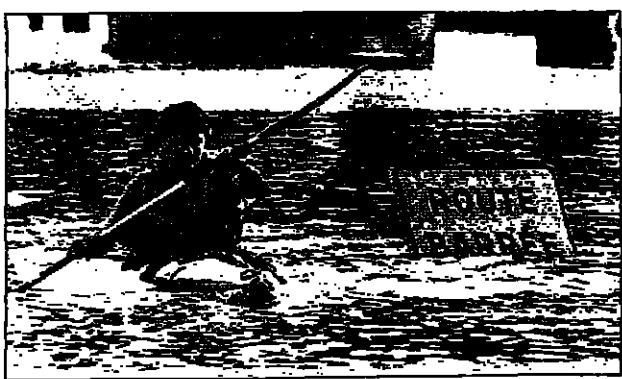
Hen House to close

THE Hen House, a Lincolnshire Wildlife hotel for women only, closes this weekend after six years.

Rachel Lever, its founder, says: "Instead, we will be offering women's holidays in Malta from mid-January until the end of February." Two weeks at the Ramla Bay Hotel will cost £35 for half-board accommodation, but no flights.

Rains hit the French Riviera

By TONY ROCCA



The only form of transport in Louhans after heavy rain

THE wet weather which has plagued Britain since the beginning of autumn has also deluged much of the Continent, ruining the hopes of late holidaymakers and inconveniencing business travellers

attempting to drive between appointments.

The most dramatic rains in living memory have devastated the French Riviera, where morning-up operations were still in full swing yesterday.

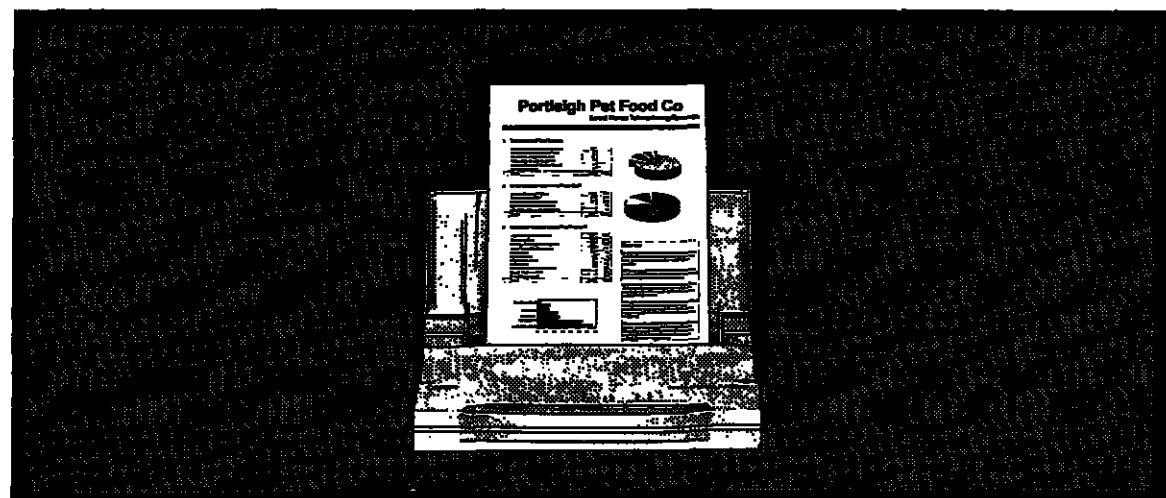
More than 21 gallons of water per square yard fell in four hours in Cannes, where frogmen were called to a flooded town centre underpass. Several cars were submerged and their occupants were feared trapped. A tidal wave four yards high swept one major artery, smashing doors and shopfronts. Part of a house collapsed and flats and basement car parks were inundated with water.

Torrents of water and mud up to two yards deep also invaded Antibes, where residents of one block of flats fled in terror to the top floors and survived on food sent up on ropes from firemen in boats. In Fréjus, one motorist took refuge in a tree where he spent the night. Perhaps the luckiest escapes were had by 44 pensioners at a home at Grasse when a 15-yard-high supporting wall collapsed along its 40-yard length.

Rivers running at 14 times their normal flow burst their banks, cutting access to Nice airport. Landslides isolated an entire village near Menton as well as the main Nice-Marseilles rail line. Roads everywhere were covered with rocks, stones and matted debris. The force of the water even ripped up tarmac.

The worst may now be over, with the weathermen forecasting a return to more gentle rain from today.

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NEWS

Blow to Clarke's budget hopes

■ Kenneth Clarke yesterday came under growing pressure to cut interest rates to inject new life into the economy as a slump in factory output and a rise in inflation fuelled fears that the recovery was faltering.

The financial markets are already anticipating a half-point cut in base rates. Yesterday's small rise in the headline inflation — from 1.7 to 1.8 per cent — should not, according to the City, stand in the way of lower interest rates. Page 1

Fan shot as Dutch arrest 700

An English supporter was shot in the leg and a home-made firebomb was thrown by Dutch fans as the number of arrests before the World Cup qualifying tie in Rotterdam reached a record of more than 700. Four hundred and fifty English fans were rounded up during the day. Pages 1, 2

Howard defended

Less than 24 hours after Lord Woolf, a law lord, had lambasted the initiatives announced by Michael Howard, the home secretary, at last week's Tory conference, John Major moved swiftly to defend the government's proposals for more jails by echoing Mr Howard's words: "Prison does work." Page 1

O'Donnell to move

Gus O'Donnell, the prime minister's press secretary for three years, is to move to a Treasury post early next year. He will be replaced by Christopher Meyer, 49, a senior official at the British embassy in Washington and a former head of the Foreign Office news department. Pages 1, 2

Doctor battered

A 35-year-old woman doctor was found battered to death by passers-by outside her flat in south-east London after driving home in the early hours of the morning. Because of the savagery of the attack and the amount of blood on the ground, cars and a wall, police believe the attacker will have tried to clean or dispose of his clothes. Page 3

Policy reversal

Lord Woolf's attack on Michael Howard's law and order initiative reflects the dismay within the Home Office, where some key officials within the department have been taken aback at the manner and speed of the apparent reversal of ideas that have driven criminal justice policy for 30 years. Page 4

Eine kleine Mozart sharpens the wits

■ Listening to Mozart can increase your intelligence, though only for a few minutes. Researchers asked 36 college students to do standard psychological tests after listening to a tape of a Mozart piano sonata. Translated into IQ scores, the average post-Mozart score was 119, against 111 for a relaxation tape and 110 for ten minutes of complete silence. Page 3

Brothers murdered

The self-styled head of state of Chechnya, part of the former Soviet Union, was ruthlessly executed with his younger brother by their trade adviser at a luxury flat in central London, an Old Bailey jury was told. Page 6

Lockerbie deadlock

Alistair Duff, the Scottish lawyer representing the two Libyans suspected of masterminding the Lockerbie bombing will never surrender for trial in Scotland or the United States. Page 9

Soldier compensated

A soldier whose posting to the Life Guards was changed because he was black has been awarded £6,500 for his injured feelings. Page 11

Thugs celebrate

At the barricaded entrance to the harbour of Port-au-Prince, the band of heavily-armed thugs who had for two days, with the blessing of Haiti's military regime, prevented the 200 US troops from disembarking, celebrated into the night. Page 13

Peace details

Some of the most determined adversaries of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict sat down to peace talks in the Egyptian resort town of Taba to hammer out the details of last month's historic peace agreement. The Israeli delegation was headed by Major General Amnon Shahak, the deputy chief of staff and one of Israel's most decorated soldiers. Page 14



Professor Averil Mansfield, who yesterday became the first woman in Britain to be appointed a professor of surgery, in theatre at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, in London. Only 75 of the 3,500 surgeons at consultant level in Britain are women

BUSINESS

Bell takeover: America's largest takeover bid for five years was launched yesterday. The near \$23 billion takeover by Bell Atlantic for Telecommunications Inc will take place when the bid for Liberty Media is complete. Page 25

Rail order: A 40-train order for Network SouthEast will safeguard 1,000 jobs at ABB's York works. Page 26

Markets: Gloomy economic data unsettled the stock market in London and the FT-SE 100 share index closed 13.8 down at 3,080.9. Sterling eased against leading currencies, closing down 1.25 cents at \$1.5230 and down 36 pence at DM2.4417. Page 28

SPORT

Rugby Union: New Zealand, forced to amend yet again their party to tour England and Scotland, have called up Marty Berry to replace Walker Little. Page 44

Golf: John Hopkins assesses the strengths of the 16 three-man teams from many of the world's leading golfing nations who will contest the Alfred Dunhill Cup this morning at St Andrews. Page 43

Racing: The British Horseracing Board plans to arrange up to six extra flat fixtures before the end of the season to compensate for the recent loss of meetings through weather. The fixtures would be run later this month and the first week of November. Page 45

FEATURES

Polar tales: "I knew he was in trouble when I heard him moaning, then sobbing with pain and fear." The dramatic polar story of Sir Ranulph Fiennes and Michael Stroud. Page 16

Fiction: Susan Hill's "sequel" to Daphne du Maurier's *Rebecca* and Kingsley Amis's new short stories. Page 41

BODY AND MIND

Brain fever: The killer that strikes from nowhere: Allen Ballantyne on the continuing fear of meningitis. Page 17

Every beat: The heart and a healthy lifestyle: Dr Tom Sturtford on. Page 17

ARTS

Blue film: New films released this week include Krzysztof Kieslowski's *Blue*, a powerful study of a young widow (Juliette Binoche) coming to terms with her new liberty; and *Rising Sun*, based on Michael Crichton's best-selling tale of murder in the world of Japanese-US big business. Page 37

On the streets: *Safe*, last night's BBC2 Screenplay, was "a brilliantly scorching" depiction of teenage homelessness, writes Lynne Truss. Page 37

Berlioz premiere: Westminster Cathedral was the scene for the British premiere of a newly-discovered *Messe Solennelle* by Hector Berlioz. Page 39

THE TIMES TOMORROW

Shame or triumph?

■ The contents of Mike Leigh's new play have been shrouded in secrecy. Now the wraps are off. Read Benedict Nightingale on the first night of *It's a Great Big Shame*.

Born again yuppie

■ In the 1980s, Porsche was the ultimate yuppie car but sales have nosedived since. Kevin Eason examines a new model that could make the dream live again.

Revenge of the dead sheep

■ Sir Geoffrey Howe, once famously described as a political dead sheep, is interviewed by Valerie Grove.



Melina Mercouri, the actress, who said the swearing in of President Papandreu for a third term was a day of justice for the Greek people. Page 15

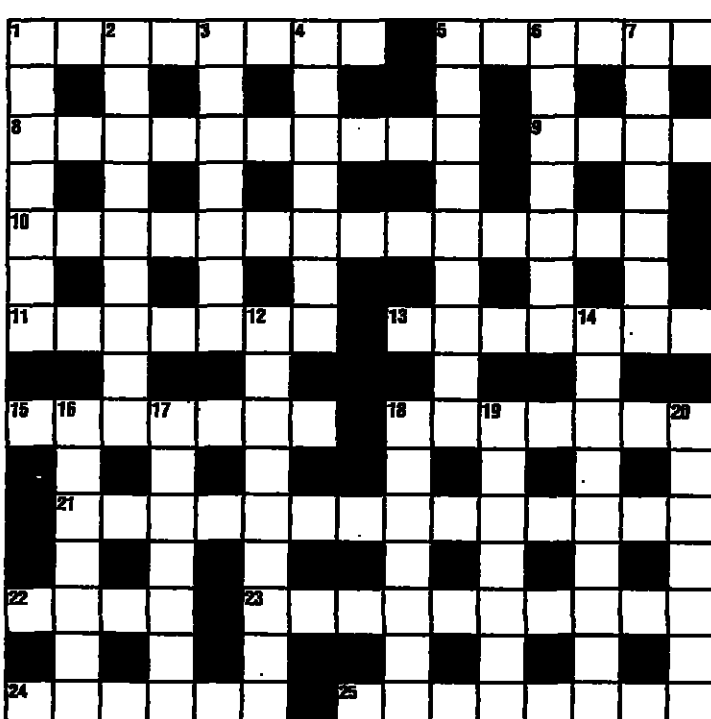


Paul Dandy, who will get £70,000 compensation after his wrongful conviction at the hands of the West Midlands serious crimes squad. Page 11



Sally Becker, the voluntary aid worker, tells of the risks and red tape involved in getting wounded civilians out of the Bosnian out of Mostar. Page 15

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,361



- ACROSS
- 1 Soldiers, freezing, are moving around (8).
 - 5 As the story goes a homely spot for cricket (6).
 - 8 Odd clue — aim is to confuse by the dozen (10).
 - 9 Fish in the burn (4).
 - 10 One ranks crib as being designed to make a chap think (4,4,6).
 - 11 Lady's garment found in shed (7).
 - 13 Akin to backing a dance in church (7).
 - 15 Throwing weapon from a tree in Africa (7).
 - 18 Pitch promising a good surface for runs (7).
 - 21 System of transfer offering no promotion to the worker (4,4,2,4).
- Solution to Puzzle No 19,360
- DOWN
- 2 Bird sanctuary seen from the French coast (4).
 - 3 Cost-effective way to make a cinema cool (10).
 - 4 Ray by right is one to cut a figure (6).
 - 5 Snakes found in rambles (8).
 - 6 Commissioned as shipshape (7).
 - 7 Assemblies where writers may be put in their place (9).
 - 8 Room let out for musical instruction (7).
 - 9 Venise has a moving simplicity (7).
 - 10 Merry term cut short by evidence of debts (9).
 - 11 Old-fashioned bridge for sale (7).
 - 12 A sort of camp movement (7).
 - 13 Coastal erosion found in Bikini (9).
 - 14 Following heavy deposits, it may cause banks to go under (9).
 - 15 Initially stand up for people here in Britain (7).
 - 16 Grinding away like Holmes's giant rat of Sumatra? (7).
 - 17 Tempo of a born poet (7).
 - 18 Farm worker handling shares in America (7).
 - 19 Sweeney, a little chap, walks unsteadily (7).

BLANDISH FACTOR
LURCH O U O U O
GOTTAGE INDUSTRY
K E C A S I T A
LURCHER TENNIEL
E C M R A O
C A M A P E S E P I A
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A U S N A G V A
S E M I T R A N S P A R E N T
P L I T T E R E
A S T E R H E A D G E A R

Concise Crossword, page 48

WEATHER

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Region	Forecast
Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Doncaster, Leeds & York	703
Derby & Cornwall	704
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire	705
Berkshire, Oxford	706
Bedfordshire & Essex	707
Northampton, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Midlands & Shropshire	709
Shropshire, Hereford & Worcester	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincoln & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N.W. England	716
W. & S. Wales & Dorset	717
N.E. England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S.W. Scotland	720
W. Central Scotland	721
Edinburgh & Fife, Orkney & Shetland	722
E. Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E. Highlands	724
N.W. Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N. Ireland	727

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Region	Code
London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within M1 & S. Croy.)	732
M1-way/roads M1-M25	733
M25-way/roads M1-Dartford T	734
M1-way/roads Dartford T-M25	735
M25-way/roads M25-M4	736
M25 London Orbital only	737
National traffic and roadworks	738
National motorways	739
West Country	740
Wales	741
Midlands	742
East Anglia	743
North-west England	744
North-east England	745
Scotland	746
Northern Ireland	747

AA Roadwatch is charged at 36p per minute (cheapest rate) and 45p per minute at all other times.

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Bank
Australia S	2.40
Austria Sch	16.19
Belgium Fr	66.17
Canada \$	2.147
Cyprus Cyp	0.775
Denmark Kr	10.46
Finland Mk	9.50
France Fr	9.04
Germany Dm	2.587
Greece Dr	344.50
Hong Kong \$	12.43
Ireland P	1.08
Italy Lira	2,496.00
Japan Yen	178.00
Malta Lm	11.27
Netherlands Gld	2.075
Norway Kr	11.27
South Africa Rd	269.00
Spain Pta	904.50
Switzerland Fr	1.262
Turkey Lira	19,000.00
USA \$	1.825

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WEATHER

Southern Britain is in store for yet more rain, heavy and persistent in places and accompanied by strong northeasterly winds reaching gale force at times. Clearer, drier weather is expected to spread to these areas later. For the rest of the country it will be another cold and bright day with some sunshine and a few showers, mostly in the North where they could be wintry. Outlook: fine, much colder with overnight frosts.

AFTERNOON

Area	Sun	Rain	Max
Aberdeen	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
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LIGHTING UP TIMES

London 6.40 pm to 6.53 am
Bristol 6.45 pm to 7.02 am
Manchester 6.45 pm to 7.04 am
Penzance 7.03 pm to 7.13 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, F, m, s, sun, moon, rain, snow, ice.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6m to 6pm, 15C (59F); min 6pm to 6am, 10C (50F); rain 6pm to 6am, 7C (45F); rain: 24hr to 6pm, 0.02in. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 1hr.

GLASGOW

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The black American writer Alice Walker attacks the practice of female genital mutilation in *Critical Eye: Warrior Marks* (Channel 4, 9pm). Page 4

Clashing ideas

A great many conscientious people want to restore the notions of "right" and "wrong" to a central place in social policy. Lord Woolf gives them only a caricature in response. Page 19

All at sea

With the humiliating retreat of the USS *Harland County*, Haiti's lords of misrule believe they have sent the world a televised message: that the easiest way to flout the United Nations is to threaten Americans. Page 19

Cats and canards

However hard it may be to believe it in this week of floods, there is nothing uniquely awful about the British weather. Overall, the picture is of an equable climate where every extreme will always be countered by its opposite: blessed is the isle where such varied weather conditions prevail. Page 19

BEN MACINTYRE

Any solution, more and more Americans are starting to believe, must be better (and cheaper) than building (and filling) more prisons. Page 18

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Either St George or the dragon, or maybe both, were male chauvinist pigs. Yet it is to the St George vocation that many people would call the Church of England: they want the church to go dragon-hunting. Page 18

How sailors on a visiting Russian ship and the people of Dartmouth in Devon got to know each other. Page 12

It's time to get serious with the Haitian junta. Economic sanctions should be reimposed — and strengthened. General Cedras should be given a very short deadline — 24 to 48 hours — to get his followers under control. — *The New York Times*

At the end of a long dispute, the Maastricht treaty has emerged victorious — and dead. Bring a funeral wreath to the ratification ceremony. — *The Wall Street Journal*

WEATHER

Southern Britain is in store for yet more rain, heavy and persistent in places and accompanied by strong northeasterly winds reaching gale force at times. Clearer, drier weather is expected to spread to these areas later. For the rest of the country it will be another cold and bright day with some sunshine and a few showers, mostly in the North where they could be wintry. Outlook: fine, much colder with overnight frosts.

AFTERNOON

Area	Sun	Rain	Max
Aberdeen	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10
Abertawe	0.8	0.8	10

LIGHTING UP TIMES

London 6.40 pm to 6.53 am
Bristol 6.45 pm to 7.02 am
Manchester 6.45 pm to 7.04 am
Penzance 7.03 pm to 7.13 am

YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, F, m, s, sun, moon, rain, snow, ice.

MAN



ANATOLE KALETSKY 29

How the Chancellor can turn bad news to good



ARTS 37-39

The hard truths of homelessness, in a fine TV play



SPORT 43-48

Spain delivers World Cup blow to Big Jack

WHO'S LOOKING AFTER YOUR PENSION?
Focus, pages 33-36

THE TIMES

2

THURSDAY OCTOBER 14 1993

BUSINESS EDITOR
Robert Ballantyne

BUSINESS
TODAY

FLOATING



Forte plans to cut debt by floating its airport services division to raise £210 million
Page 27, Tempus 29

LOGGERHEADS

American and French officials remain at loggerheads over the Gatt talks
Page 26

PATHFINDER



Alders, the retailer, has issued a pathfinder prospectus before full details on October 27
Page 27, Tempus 29

IN THE RED

Metal dumping by the CIS, and a sourced investment in America, sent Attwoods into the red
Page 28, Tempus 29

THE POUND

US \$ 1.5230 (-0.0125)
German mark 2.4417 (-0.0038)
Exchange index 80.4 (-0.2)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT-SE 100 3080.9 (+13.8)
Dow Jones 3600.11 (+8.98)
Nikkei Ave 20038.40 (+8.51)

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base 6%
3-month Interbank 5 1/8%
US Federal Funds 3 1/4%
3-month Treas Bills 3.03-3.02%
Long Bond 5.91%

CURRENCIES

New York: London: 1.5230
S.D.M. 1.5030 S.D.M. 2.4398
S.W.M. 1.4080 S.W.M. 2.1377
S.F.R. 5.6803 S.F.R. 8.5680
S.Yen 106.00 S.Yen 161.03
S.SDR 1.0757 S.ECU 1.2841
London Foreign market close

GOLD

London Fixing (4):
AM 368.60 PM 366.40
Close 366.60-367.10
New York:
Comex 366.65-367.15

RETAIL PRICES

RPI 141.9 September (1.8%)
* Denotes midday trading price

Falling demand and rising inflation worry the City

By JANET BUSH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE City reacted with obvious disappointment yesterday to evidence that the recovery in the manufacturing sector is stalling in the face of weak demand at home and overseas and also to the third successive month of rising inflation.

The inflation figures, which showed the headline rate creeping higher to 1.8 per cent in August from 1.7 per cent in July and the underlying rate, excluding mortgage interest payments, to 3.3 per cent from 3.1 per cent, were a mild negative for the financial markets but the more serious impact came

from yesterday's production figures for August.

The Central Statistical Office reported that manufacturing output fell by 0.4 per cent in August, having increased by 0.8 per cent in July. Taking the CSO's preferred three month measure, manufacturing fell by 0.7 per cent in the three months to August compared with the previous three months and was only up 1.2 per cent compared with the three months to August 1992.

The CSO said that about three quarters of the fall in manufacturing in August was accounted for by lower production of cars. Car production was down 7 per cent from July's level and the output of commercial

vehicles was down 30 per cent in the month. However, taking the last three months, it is clear that all manufacturing sectors apart from the coke, refined petrol and nuclear fuels category, have been flat or lower.

Overall industrial production, which includes the North Sea, rose by 0.8 per cent in the three months to August and was 2.6 per cent higher than the same period a year ago. However, it is worrying for the sustainability of the recovery that the output of investment goods industries fell by 0.9 per cent in the latest three months compared with the previous three.

A Treasury official said that it was more surprising that inflation had been driven

down to the low levels achieved this year than that it is now rising again, and that it still remains well below the 3.75 per cent prediction for the underlying rate in the fourth quarter. He also said that, despite the decline in manufacturing, the sector was still looking healthy and that nobody could "expect things to proceed in a straight line".

However, the City is now concerned about the weakness of the recovery. Ian Harnett, chief economist at Strauss Turnbull, said that the manufacturing recovery had clearly been decelerating and that the risk of "generating rampant inflation is very small". He argued that the government now has clear justification for a base rate cut and

that this should be at least 1 per cent to make sure that the lower cost of money is passed on by building societies to their customers.

Shares were immediately knocked back after the figures and the FT-SE 100 index closed 13.8 points lower at 3080.9 continuing the downward correction to its 100 point rally since September, which had been fuelled largely by hopes of lower base rates that have not yet materialised. Sterling also weakened, closing at 80.4 on its trade weighted index compared with 80.6 at the finish on Tuesday.

Economic View, page 29
Tempus, page 29

Bid set to create \$60bn company

FROM PHILIP ROBINSON IN NEW YORK

AMERICA'S largest takeover bid for five years was launched yesterday. It would create the biggest telephone and cable television company in the world, with assets of \$60 billion and ranking as the sixth-largest US corporation.

Bell Atlantic, the second-largest US regional telephone company, made an all-share agreed takeover bid worth almost \$23 billion for Telecommunications Inc (TCI), the largest of the cable television operators. The deal, if successful, will dramatically change the shape of two industries currently scrambling to carry a news, information and entertainment service into the home down one wire in the next century.

The takeover will be carried through once TCI's bid for the 95 per cent it does not already own of Liberty Media, a television programme maker, is complete. TeleWest, a joint company between TCI and US West, the telephone group, is one of the UK's largest cable operators. The combined Bell, TCI and Liberty group will have 22 million cable and television customers, and turnover of \$16 billion.

TCI operates 1,200 cable systems reaching 10 million subscribers in 49 states. Liberty Media has interests in the Family Channel, QVC and Home Shopping networks and several sports channels. The merger could have implications for the \$10 billion takeover battle for Paramount Communications, the Hollywood studio. As a result of the takeovers, Bell Atlantic would own a significant stake in QVC Network, the home shopping channel headed by Barry Diller which is one of two rivals bidding for Paramount. However, John Ma-

lone, TCI chief executive, last night played down any involvement in that takeover by the new merged company.

The Bell Atlantic deal would be the second-largest takeover in American corporate history, topped only by the hostile \$30 billion bid in 1988 by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts, the management buyout specialist, for RJR Nabisco, the food group. Takeover specialists say this year could be the most active for bids since the 1980s. Securities Data, which tracks them, said that before the Bell Atlantic announcement, 4,813 deals worth \$193.9 billion had been announced or completed so far this year.

Bell Atlantic is offering 12 times annual cash flow for TCI, but Michael Elling, at Oppenheimer & Co, the New York stockbroking firm, said that was not too much to pay to deliver a new kind of information technology.

William Donald, media analyst at Standard & Poor's, said: "We are going to see many more of these deals. This is initially expensive for Bell, because it will dilute earnings, but over the long term it's a steal."

Raymond Smith, chairman of Bell Atlantic, said the deal would serve as a model for communications companies over the next century. "Bell Atlantic, TCI and Liberty combine leading telephone, wireless and cable networks in the US and overseas with cutting edge video programming and new interactive media technologies which will combine to make the information superhighway a reality."

Bell Atlantic said it would be issuing 220 million new B shares at \$54 each to pay for TCI, a price of \$11.8 billion. It would also assume \$9.6 billion of TCI debt and inject \$1 billion into the business.



Bo Sodersten, head of ABB Transportation, yesterday. The York works won a crucial train contract. (Details, page 26)

British Aerospace stresses Taiwan deal is still alive

By ROSS TIEMAN, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH Aerospace continued to insist its plans to sell a half-share in Avro International, its regional jet subsidiary, to Taiwan Aerospace is still alive after Chiang Pin-kung, Taiwan's fledgling aerospace industry was unchanged, and it remained willing to provide assistance to Taiwan Aerospace if it did agree on a joint venture with a foreign partner.

"We hope that Taiwan Aerospace can co-operate with a foreign company to manufacture aircraft parts or assemble planes," he said. But for the British venture to go ahead, "it

needs to be in the interests of the country and the business community."

A BAE spokesman said: "They have confirmed to us their commitment to a deal. We have had a very strong response from Taiwan this morning." He said the offer to acquire a half share in Avro International for £120 million, with production of the RJ series of regional aircraft, based on the BAe146 jet being established in Taiwan as well as Britain, provided a unique opportunity for Taiwan to realise its ambitions to develop a civil aerospace industry.

commitment were triggered by Mr Chiang's response to opposition party questions in Taiwan's parliament yesterday. Mr Chiang said the government's determination to develop Taiwan's fledgling aerospace industry was unchanged, and it remained willing to provide assistance to Taiwan Aerospace if it did agree on a joint venture with a foreign partner.

New doubts about Taiwan's

More pit closures expected

By OUR INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S miners are bracing themselves for a new round of pit closure announcements. Sources at British Coal indicate that the first could come as early as next week.

The coal industry has been gripped by a surge of speculation that new closures are imminent after a widely publicised warning from Neil Clarke, the chairman of British Coal, that he was pessimistic about prospects for the 12 collieries that had been reprieved from closure by the government in March.

Markham Colliery, North Derbyshire, the first of the reprieved pits to close, was offered by the corporation yesterday for lease and licence by private sector mining groups.

The mine, which produced almost 1.5 million tonnes of coal last year, is the 20th surplus colliery to be offered for licensing by British Coal since last autumn's announcement that 31 pits were to close with the loss of 30,000 jobs.

Bids have been received to reopen six pits, but none has been authorised so far.

Fears over jobs at British Coal coincide with growing alarm at Royal Ordnance, where unions believe that British Aerospace is poised to announce hundreds of job losses because of a shortfall in orders from the Ministry of Defence.

Manage change to manage public spending

THIS autumn, the government is due to launch its multi-option Sunday trading bill in a final attempt to sort out the mess now embarrassing everyone in the retail trade. Ministers favour more or less complete liberalisation. So will most shoppers, especially in households where every adult is at work during the week.

Before they go down this road, ministers should re-read John Major's salt-of-the-earth speech at Blackpool, where he urged a return to the Conservatism of traditional values and a stronger role for the family, deriding attacks on the church and the law. This was no mere soft soap. It is at the heart of the party's social policy, designed to control spending on social security and services and to cut crime. Sadly, it does not inform other policies.

The downside of free Sunday trading, for instance, is that it will put further strain on the families of those who have to work Sunday

shifts, will substitute part-time for full-time jobs and will remove the artificial protection that the old law gave small family shopkeepers. Coincidentally, it would also be one in the eye for churches and appease mighty retailers who have dished competitors by ignoring the law.

Mr Major's social policy did not have a look-in in the restructuring of power and the coal industry. The private sector, which in any case usually manages such structural changes much better, is driven by the over-riding imperative of survival. If that is at stake, as it has been too often for so many, the government must be left to pick up the pieces. The public sector has the luxury of choice, provided the public goes along. In the case of coal, drastic contraction could have been phased over a long period, giving time and help for dependent communities to plan a new future. Short-term, that is a better option for public spending, since taxpayers



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

must pick up the pieces when thousands are thrown out of work. The transition has to be paid for, but just as consumers pay for the relative inefficiency of corner shops, domestic consumers would have had to pay in their bills for a more gradual reshaping of power. Voters would probably have been willing to do so if the choice was explicit.

Further ahead, the instant economic sack of pit communities will break up extended families as young people take the time-honoured route of migrating for work. Family links are critical in keeping down public spending on both children and the old. Making absent parents pay is

one thing. When there is only one parent, or both work, families eschewing reliance on state or local authority provision need the old extended family—or servants.

The trade-off between social and micro-economic policies—between public spending and short-term economic efficiency—has been ignored so long that public finances have become unviable. Hence the bizarre conclusion that a more prosperous Britain can no longer afford Beveridge-style welfare.

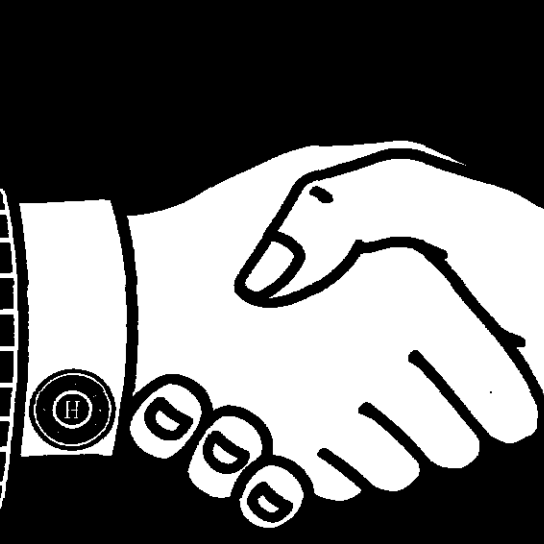
That logic is powerful. The postwar full employment objective was an intrinsic element of the original Beveridge system precisely because it could not otherwise be financed without crippling the economy. As is now clear, full employment in the old sense is not a proper aim of economic management or attainable by faster economic growth, due to the parallel trends towards higher participation

in the available labour force and tax-driven de-manning in industry.

There is a wider conundrum. The more insecure people are, the more they need a safety net. Yet the welfare state only suits a settled society. It is not consistent with too-rapid structural change and mass labour mobility any more than a pension scheme fits a rapidly changing corporation with high labour turnover. Indeed, the argument is at its starkest over state pensions, where calls for private provision assume the very stability of income and employment whose absence has wrecked the social security budget.

There is an alternative. If the voters, like Ford workers, are prepared to trade stability for immediate income growth, Mr Major's social priorities could take precedence. To control spending, we might heed the Archbishop of Canterbury's advice on coal closures: "We need to hope that, in the future, change will be managed carefully".

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Money means votes under Lloyd's proposal



Rowland: vote proposal

BY SARAH BAGNALL
INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

JUST when the Labour party has made its painful transition to "one member, one vote", Lloyd's of London, the loss-making insurance market, is proposing to move the opposite way.

A proposed weighted voting system, outlined in a consultative document, *Names' voting rights and related matters*, has been prompted by the planned introduction, at the start of next year, of corporate capital to Lloyd's, chaired by David Rowland.

The paper says: "Those representing potential corporate capital have made it clear that they would be unhappy if the capacity of each corporate member

(£3 million minimum) were not fairly reflected in its voting strength. As a result, the working party considering the issue says, it is appropriate that names with greater capacity should have a correspondingly greater say."

The working party, chaired by Mark Sheldon, past president of the Law Society, also proposes increasing external names' representation on the Lloyd's Council. It suggests increasing their seats from four, as proposed by the Morse committee, to six, one of which would represent corporate capital.

After considering various weighted voting systems, the working party backed a "pure" system giving each name a vote directly corresponding to capacity. "It might be that for every

£1,000 of allocated capacity, a name was given one vote," the party says. It had looked at three modified weighting systems: bottom slicing, whereby votes would be applied on a weighted basis above a certain capacity; top slicing, whereby votes would not be allocated above a certain capacity; and step weighting, involving votes allocated to bands of capacity. The modified systems were rejected on the ground that they may quickly become outdated.

The Association of Lloyd's Members said: "The jury is still out on the proposal. We will carefully consider the paper as we want to ensure that the rights of names writing on an unlimited liability basis are paramount."

The paper also deals with names no

longer actively underwriting but trapped in the market by years in runoff. There are three "trapped" names for every five active ones. The working party says that it "is concerned that they should not be disenfranchised as a result of its proposals". It therefore suggests allocating votes to non-underwriting names on a basis of capacity for any outstanding open years.

The proposal would alter the distribution of voting rights between active and trapped names. The voting strength of active names would rise from 63 per cent to 87.5 per cent. That of trapped names would fall from 37 per cent to 12.5.

Names are to vote on admitting corporate capital next Wednesday.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Kuwaitis to answer KIO allegations

TWO senior Kuwaiti ministers are set to fly to London shortly for high-level talks on allegations that the country misled British authorities over purchase of a stake in oil giant British Petroleum five years ago. Sources close to the Kuwait Investment Office (KIO) said on Wednesday that Nasser Abdullah Al-Rodhan, the finance minister, and Ali Ahmad Al-Baghl, the oil minister, would arrive possibly this weekend.

The affair blew up two weeks ago as Kuwait was still reeling from the \$5 billion collapse of the Grupo Torras, KIO's Spanish arm, last year amid allegations of fraud and secret political payments. At the end of September, the *Financial Times* alleged that Kuwait Petroleum — not the KIO — was the buyer of a 21.7 per cent BP stake in 1987-8, a fact hidden from the government, BP and competition watchdogs, in breach of British company law. KMPF, Marwick McIntock, KIO's auditors and advisers, will handle any Inland Revenue enquiries.

Lonrho denies dispute

LONRHO yesterday denied revived speculation that Tiny Rowland and Dieter Bock, its joint chief executives, had had a "disagreement" over appointing two non-executive directors. It said that Mr Rowland and Herr Bock are "working together" towards an announcement on non-executive directors by October 19. Herr Bock had put forward Peter Harper, a Hanson director, and Stephen Walls, Albert Fisher's chairman. Such appointments were then deferred.

Good day for gold

LONDON gold rose by \$5 to \$366.50 to its best level in six weeks. In New York futures markets, the metal touched \$369 an ounce at one stage. Silver rose by 11 cents to 442 cents an ounce. Trading was said to have been largely technical, but analysts were told at a World Gold Council seminar in London, at which the question as to whether pension and investment funds should return to gold was debated, that gold was at the beginning of a long-awaited recovery.

New NatWest company

NATWEST Markets, part of National Westminster Bank, is joining the list of financial institutions wanting to set up Lloyd's corporate capital vehicles. It is creating Angerstein Underwriting Trust, to be run as an investment trust, targeted at private and institutional investors. It would also be listed on the stock market. Full details about the company will be published if Lloyd's names approve corporate membership at an extraordinary meeting on October 20.

Limit on bank stakes

THE Italian government has agreed to a limit of 3 per cent on individual stakes in the two state-owned banks about to be privatised, Carlo Azeglio Ciampi, the prime minister, said yesterday. The board of IRI, the state holding company, meets today to decide formally on its disposal plans for the Milan-based Credito Italiano and Banca Commerciale Italiana. IRI has said it was to privatise Credito by the end of this year, with the Banca Commerciale sale soon after.

ICI agrees stake swap

ICI, in a deal with an imputed value of £86 million, is restructuring its interests in South Africa to strengthen further the company's international explosives business. ICI is to reduce its stake in the quoted AECI group from 38.3 per cent to 13 per cent by exchanging a 25 per cent stake for 51 per cent of AECI Explosives, to be held in ICI's world-wide explosives division, whose annual turnover of £600 million is expected to rise by 25 per cent as a result of the deal.

Healthy rise for Seton

SETON Healthcare, the medical products and sports equipment group, reported a 49 per cent rise in pre-tax profits for the six months to end-August from £2.1 million to £3.2 million. It is the second successive year it has achieved a near 50 per cent increase. The dividend was lifted 10 per cent to 1.9p and the shares rose 5p to 306p. The engine for growth was the healthcare division, which lifted pre-tax profits from £2.1 million to £2.9 million and turnover by 30 per cent.

Kingfisher offshoot slips

RECESSION took its toll on Darty, the French electrical retailer acquired by Kingfisher in June. Sales slipped from Fr8.6 billion to Fr8.5 billion in the year to August 31, Nigel Whitaker, Kingfisher's corporate affairs director, said sales rose 2 per cent in June and July, but fell by 5 per cent in August as disruption in the exchange-rate mechanism dealt consumer confidence a blow. The group does not expect the French economy to pick up until well into next year.

US refuses to take farming off Gatt agenda

FROM JAMES LANDALE IN BRUSSELS

AMERICAN trade negotiators refused, yesterday, to put on the agenda a proposal by the French government to exclude farming from the seven-year-old Uruguay Round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as urgent talks with the European Community got underway.

Even though French objections to the Blair House accord, which would cut subsidies to European farmers, are seen as a major obstacle to reaching agreement in the trade deal by the December 15 deadline, officials said that Sir Leon Brittan, the EC trade commissioner, and Mickey Kantor, the US trade representative, were here to hammer out final problems of market access.

As he arrived in Brussels, Mr Kantor said: "Blair House is done, it is signed. We are not talking about Blair House."

Yesterday's talks, however, were seen as a crucial attempt to clarify the agreement on tariffs which was brokered between the so-called Quad countries — the US, the EC, Canada and Japan — last July in Tokyo. The EC feels that the accord provided for firm cuts in tariffs whereas the others see it as merely an agreement on objectives which can be hardened up in future bargaining.

In the textiles sector, the EC thought it had won huge cuts in tariffs but the US are now offering much smaller

reductions. Another issue which was addressed was how the European film and television industry could be protected from the flood of US imports.

Sir Leon wants to include the industry in the latest Gatt deal under a "cultural specificity" clause which would give the industry protection under clear trade laws. But European film makers, led by the French, want the industry to be excluded completely from any Gatt deal.

Meeting in Brussels yesterday for talks with both Sir Leon and Mr Kantor, European film makers said that they were facing a battle for survival. Wim Wenders, the German film maker, said that unless the European audiovisual industry was protected, Europe would become "culturally third world" by 2000.

Earlier this week, however, Sir Leon said that although he shared the aim of the French in safeguarding European culture, outside Gatt the industry would have no protection. "It would make no sense to exclude it," he said.

Yesterday's talks in Brussels were seen very much in terms of getting non-agriculture issues out of the way before some kind of compromise is brokered to satisfy the French. One EC official said: "It's a juggling act to keep enough balls in the air to distract attention from the grounded farm issue."



America's Mickey Kantor, left, and the EC's Sir Leon Brittan aim to hammer out final details of market access

ABB works reprieved by commuter train contract

BY ROSS TIEMAN
INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

THE ABB railway works in York, which employs 1,000 people, has gained a year-long reprieve from closure by winning a £150 million contract to build 41 commuter trains. They will be leased to British Rail.

Both ABB and GEC Alsthom — which offered to supply 12 type 225 trains for the West Coast mainline under the leasing plan — face empty order books at the end of 1995.

Government cost-cutting has combined with uncertainty caused by British Rail's impending privatisation to push railway investment below the level needed to replace rolling stock and infrastructure as it wears out.

While welcoming the prospect of new trains to serve London commuters, John Nelson, the managing director of

Network SouthEast, said he needed to invest £475 million a year to maintain service quality. "Even with shiny new trains, passengers will start to suffer delays and disruption if we cannot maintain and improve track and signalling," he said.

Authority to procure additional leased rolling stock was given by the government a year ago. BR said it chose to buy commuter trains rather than long-haul rolling stock because the ABB bid offered better value for money. GEC Alsthom said it was "disappointed".

Deliveries of the trains will begin in 1995. They are Network Expresses, with the ability to pick up power from either overhead lines or a third rail, and will have more lavatories and legroom than their short-haul predecessors.

The order was welcomed by ABB, which has been forced to cut 3,500 jobs at the former BREL rail engineering business in the past four years because of weak order books. "It buys us time while we desperately try for export orders," a spokeswoman said.

The contract sets a new pattern for rolling stock procurement. ABB will build and maintain the trains, which will be owned by an ABB leasing subsidiary. They will be supplied to British Rail under a 12-year lease, with an

option for BR to renew for a further 13 years.

For ABB there are important advantages. The company will be able to supplement construction with additional maintenance work. It will also receive feedback on the performance of the trains in service which will enable it continuously to modify and improve its products.

The Networkers will replace trains up to 35 years old on Kent Coast services and ten-year-old trains serving Peterborough, King's Lynn and Cambridge. Trains from those routes will displace 35-year-old stock on the London, Tilbury and Southend line.

Although ABB will maintain the trains, a Network SouthEast spokeswoman said job losses were unlikely because the region's workshops were already at full stretch trying to maintain the ageing and increasingly unreliable existing fleet of trains.

German banking chief attacks privatisation

FROM PATRICIA TEHAN IN BONN

THE head of the German Savings Banks Association said that privatising state-owned savings banks would cause a fall in funds available for small businesses, job losses and lack of support for local communities.

Dr Horst Köhler, who became the association's president two months ago and was formerly state secretary of the German finance ministry, said: "We will not embark on a simple privatisation discussion, which will bring more concentration to the banking business and more fragility to the economy and to society."

The association's 736 members account for 37 per cent of business volume in Germany's banking industry and for 61 per cent of lending to small and medium-sized businesses.

Günter Rexrodt, the economy minister, recently spoke in favour of privatising state-owned banks as a way of reducing the country's budget deficit, which is running at DM 68 billion this year.

Last month, Otto Graf Lambsdorff, economics spokesman for the Free Democrats (Herr Rexrodt's party), called for state-owned banks to be privatised.

Cancelling reprocessing plant 'would cost £2bn'

BY NICK NUTTALL, TECHNOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

CANCELLING the controversial nuclear fuel reprocessing plant at Sellafield would cost British Nuclear Fuels and the taxpayer £2 billion according to a report by an academic at the London Business School.

Dr Anthony Neuberger, who has evaluated the economic arguments for and against the Thermal Oxide Reprocessing Plant (Thorp) opening, claims "the economic arguments are strongly in favour of allowing it to operate".

He claims losses in revenues over the plant's first 10 years of operation would be more than £3.6 billion with

company saving just over £1.7 billion if the government decides to mothball the facility.

Dr Neuberger rejects assertions, used by environmental groups which claim the economic cost of abandoning the plant is finely balanced. A former member of the government's central policy review staff and employee of the energy department, he was invited by BNFL to examine the economic case for Thorp.

BNFL emphasised he was invited to write the report on the basis of his experience and denied the findings were rigged in the company's favour.

Partners give VAT men a taxing time

BY JON ASHWORTH

TWO Oxfordshire businessmen have trumped the taxman. After a five-year battle, they have pulled off a remarkable coup and had their assessment for value-added tax reduced from £108,000 to £3,000.

The pair, partners of H & B Motors, a car dealership in Dorchester, do not want to be named. They took their battle to the courts after receiving an initial VAT assessment in 1988. It ended with a tribunal awarding punitive costs against Customs and Excise and criticising the way in which VAT officials had gone about their business.

Douglas Gordon, VAT consultant with Grant Thornton, who fought the case, said:



Gordon: protests

"This is one of the most significant decisions made by a VAT tribunal in recent years. It has taken a long time, but the little man has finally triumphed." In 1986, an argu-

ment developed over a third partner's cut of H & B's profits. A set of report and accounts found their way to Customs and Excise and, in March 1988, H & B Motors was issued with a VAT assessment for £108,000.

The sales shown in the accounts were greater than those shown on the VAT returns for the same period. Customs simply subtracted the smaller figure from the larger, and assessed the VAT on the difference.

Mr Gordon said: "It was plain to everyone concerned — apart from Customs — that this set of accounts was not accurate. But Customs simply refused to take any notice of our protests. There was no attempt to reconcile the opposing views represented by the

conflicting set of accounts." Stephen Dexter, managing partner of Grant Thornton, Oxford, said: "On the face of it, the case ought to have been a routine job. Instead, events took a turn which meant this case was to culminate, after more than five years of argument, in one of the most significant decisions of the VAT tribunal in recent years."

The tribunal said Customs had acted disgracefully, adding that best judgment was all that the law required of them in issuing the assessment. It said that having issued the assessment, the customs "lowered the portcullis and sat behind it, refusing to come out".

It called for VAT officers to be better trained and managed to ensure such disputes were avoided.

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مركز الأعمال

Buoyant markets tempt two British businesses to float

Listing for air offshoot will shrink Forte debt

By MARTIN WALLER, DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

FORTE is cutting into its £1.3 billion debt mountain with the flotation early next year, for an estimated £210 million, of its airport services division, which provides in-flight catering and operates airport shops.

Rocco Forte, chairman of the hotels and restaurants group, denied the float was the result of City prompting for Forte to cut its borrowings. "We're in a very comfortable position, with long maturity on our debts and facilities representing 150 per cent of debt levels," he said. "I'm under no pressure to sell things."

Forte's airport services side employs 6,000 and reported turnover of £404 million and trading profits of £17 million in the year to January 31. In the subsequent six months, profits rose to £12 million on sales of £208 million.

As with this year's £400 million sale to managers of the Gardner Merchant contract catering side, Forte is to retain a stake of perhaps 25 per cent and, therefore, access to future earnings.

The airports business was at one time part of Gardner Merchant but was hived off before the management buyout. Both parts were the subject of a £530 million offer from Compass, the rival catering group, but Forte rebuffed this as being too low.

The airports side was seen as a further possible disposal, though it had officially been withdrawn from the market 18 months previously. "We've

had everybody in the business approaching us at one stage or another," Mr Forte said, "but the flotation route is the most attractive for us."

The business is the biggest non-core activity within Forte, which plans to concentrate on its hotels and restaurants.

The City had expected some sort of cash-raising, whether by a rights issue or by a disposal. The decision to float has implications for the Harvester chain of 90 inns, the sale of which has been widely mooted. Mr Forte said Harvester was "completely separate and different", but several pub groups are thought to be interested in it, including Whitbread and Boddingtons. Market-watchers believe, however, that Forte is now under less pressure to sell.

The possible price-tag of £210 million placed by the market on the airport services arm suggests that the business can be floated on about 15 times earnings, or about the current market average, assuming annualised pre-tax profits of £20 million that attract a tax at 30 per cent. But Forte is making clear that if market conditions deteriorate rapidly, the sale will not go ahead.

Mr Forte said a flotation would offer continuity of management to a business that had good growth prospects as air travel expanded. Forte is using UBS, its own broker, to advise on the deal and as sponsor to the issue.

Tempus, page 29



Rocco Forte, chairman, said "everyone in the business" had expressed interest in the airport services activity, but flotation was thought preferable

Alders expects to crest recovery wave

By MARTIN FLANAGAN

ALLDERS, the department store and duty-free retailing group, published the pathfinder prospectus for its forthcoming flotation. It suggested it would benefit particularly from any economic upturn because of its south-eastern bias.

Harvey Lipsith, the chief executive, said: "Any economic bounce back will help us disproportionately because of our concentration in the South East and our concentration in household merchandise." Alders' department store profile differed

from that of its rivals in that it was two-thirds household merchandise and one-third fashion items, whereas the reverse was usually the case.

The company confirmed that its proposed placing and public offer was designed to raise about £85 million of new money, and to give it a market capitalisation not far short of £200 million. It is understood that about £75 million of the new money will be used to repay bank debt arising from the Hanson group buyout in 1989.

The prospectus contains an estimate that in the year to September 30, the group

made profits before interest payments of £15.1 million on sales of £685.5 million.

The Alders' camp said yesterday that since the buyout, the group had watched costs and, like other big retailers, had made increasing use of part-time staff in its 18 department stores. About one employee in three is now part-time. Mr Tony Collyer, finance director, said the 18 stores were being run with 20 per cent fewer staff than had operated 11 stores in 1989.

He added that Alders had invested £50 million in the business in the past four

years, despite its highly leveraged state.

Mr Lipsith reiterated that there was great scope for Alders' other main business, Alders International, the second-biggest duty- and tax-free retailer in the world after Duty Free Shoppers, the American company.

Alders believes there is room to expand its out-of-town retailing concept, "at Home with Alders", with possibly two or three additional outlets opening each year. The stores sell light and heavy household merchandise.

The expansion will probably be slanted towards the North.

start on Wednesday, November 10. It is estimated that management will own about 5 per cent of the business after flotation. At present, 20 financial institutions hold about 94 per cent of the equity.

Alders believes there is room to expand its out-of-town retailing concept, "at Home with Alders", with possibly two or three additional outlets opening each year. The stores sell light and heavy household merchandise.

Tempus, page 29

Densitron prepares for costly legal fight in the US

By OUR CITY STAFF

SHARES in Densitron International fell 5p to 32p after the electronic components group accompanied a 32.2 per cent drop in first half profits with news of a costly legal action in America against a Japanese competitor.

Weaker performances in America and Japan saw pre-tax profits at the Kent group slide to £251,000 in the six months to end June, despite turnover rising 19.6 per cent to £28 million. Turnover, excluding inter-group turnover, climbed 14 per cent to £21.3 million.

Clifford Hardcastle, chairman, said: "We still see a continuing recession in Continental Europe and a deepening recession in Japan coupled with very high price rises for products sourced from there. All parts of the company are now trading profitably although reduced profits in the US and Japan are the reasons why the first half's performance was not better."

But the Japanese market is expected to improve rapidly in the second half of the year. "Orders and sales are already showing this improvement which, if continued, would be a great help towards a satisfactory outcome for the full year," Mr Hardcastle said.

The company also said it has undertaken a legal action in the US against a Japanese competitor which Densitron alleges misused confidential information. The costs of the action are "quite significant", but Densitron expects to be able to recover all of its costs plus damages. The case is due to come to court in mid-December.

Mr Hardcastle expects the group's full-year results to be satisfactory, although they depend on relatively large contracts in the last quarter.

The interim dividend is raised to 0.5p (0.4p), with a scrip alternative, from earnings ahead to 1.12p (0.8p) a share.

Woolworth operation in US to close stores

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

WOOLWORTH Corporation is to close 970 of its North American discount and speciality shops in the coming months and eliminate 13,000 jobs in the process.

The retail company, which is unrelated to Britain's Woolworth retailing chain, said it would take a \$480 million charge as part of the restructuring. The changes will shut down about 10 per cent of its less profitable outlets in the United States and Canada and de-emphasize the firm's Woolworth general merchandise store concept.

The move will close 400 of the company's flagship Woolworth discount stores in the US, about half the total number, and 330 Kinney and Footlockers shoe outlets.

In Canada, 240 stores are affected. About 100 Woolworth stores will be converted to The Bargain Shop, a discount apparel and household merchandise concept. Only 5 per cent of the total number of Canadian shops will be closed permanently.

The restructuring will reduce the work force by about nine percent by cutting 10,000 jobs in the United States and 3,000 in Canada.

Obstacles frustrate mega-airline plan

By COLIN NARBROUGH, WORLD TRADE CORRESPONDENT

SAS, KLM, Swissair and Austrian Airlines have yet to overcome major obstacles to their Alcazar mega-airline merger and a deal is now unlikely this week, it emerged yesterday.

Shares in KLM Royal Dutch Airlines hit a new high on the Amsterdam stock exchange amid speculation that agreement was imminent, but spokesman Troels Rasmussen of Scandinavian Airlines System moved swiftly to counter rumours. "It won't be this week, but negotiations continue," he said.

A report in a leading Dutch newspaper yesterday stated that KLM expected to have a memorandum of understanding with SAS, Swissair and Austrian Airlines in place by today or tomorrow.

Four major issues in the talks remain unresolved: final valuation of each airline, the choice of location for the joint headquarters, the sharing out of key jobs, and the choice of American partner.

The Austrian government, meanwhile, has made it clear that it is in no rush to agree to the state-controlled Austrian Airlines signing up to Alcazar. The airline's management must first submit its recommendations to the supervisory board. Only when the boards agree will Ferdinand Lacinia,

the finance minister, give the final verdict.

Austrian Airlines, still being wooed by Lufthansa, the German carrier, has yet to make up its mind which of the options it will take. Discussions with both of its suitors are scheduled this week. Rudolf Streicher, Austrian's supervisory chairman, has indicated his preference for linking up with Lufthansa.

On Tuesday Helge Mortensen, the Danish transport minister said after a parliamentary committee meeting that Amsterdam was the likely choice as Alcazar hub. "It could well be that Amsterdam is the favourite but I don't think anything has been decided," Mr Rasmussen, of SAS, said.

Although airline spokesmen said the issue of the Alcazar headquarters and main hub airport remain unresolved, Helge Mortensen, the Danish transport minister told a parliamentary committee in Copenhagen on Tuesday that Amsterdam, KLM's home town, was the likely site for the alliance's head office.

Only Amsterdam and Copenhagen were ever serious contenders for the headquarters, Stockholm, Zurich and Vienna were not real rivals.

Acting Lingus cash, page 32

EC gives approval for Opel state aid

FROM REUTERS IN BRUSSELS

THE European Commission said yesterday it had approved German state aid of DM64.5 million to help General Motors' Adam Opel AG modernise and expand the production of diesel engines. The aid, which will be granted to Saginaw Deutschland, Opel's subsidiary in Kaiserslautern, was in line with EC rules on state aid to the car industry, the statement said.

The rules are intended to prevent negative effects such as the creation of major overcapacity in the European car industry which would not be the case with the Opel project as most diesels used in the Community are imported.

Opel's investment project, over the period 1993-6, will cost a total of DM500 million. The Commission also justified the approval by saying it would create jobs and enable Opel to compete with other car makers in the EC market on the latest diesel technology and comply with new EC-wide emission standards.

The new generation of diesel engines will be used for Opel/Vauxhall cars with lower consumption and reduced exhaust and noise emissions.

Mercedes dealer seeks flotation

By PHILIP PANGALOS

CHARLES Sidney, the Mercedes-Benz dealer based in Yorkshire, is the latest company to join the ranks of those seeking a stock market quote and benefit from the market's recent record-breaking run.

The company, which is a 100 per cent subsidiary of the Albert Fisher food group, has produced its pathfinder prospectus. It plans to come to the market through a placing and somewhat rare public offer, by Schroders. Pammyre Gordon is the stockbroker. Albert Fisher is selling its entire interest in the group.

The sale is expected to raise between £20 million and £30 million, with informed City estimates suggesting the figure will be about £27 million, including some new money for future expansion. The company is likely to join the



John Ross, MD, and Raymond Edwards, chairman

market with a price/earnings ratio in the mid-teens, on historic earnings.

Charles Sidney, which is the largest Mercedes-Benz commercial vehicle dealer and sixth-largest car dealer in the UK in terms of new registra-

tions this year, made an operating profit of £2.44 million in the year to end-August, on turnover of £55.8 million.

Raymond Edwards, the chairman, said: "We are delighted that Charles Sidney has an opportunity to further

its development as an independent listed company, which will allow greater flexibility to take advantage of opportunities for expansion."

On the trading front, Mr Edwards said: "Commercial vehicles seem to be coming out of the recession quite strongly, ahead of luxury cars. But luxury cars are just starting to see things move ahead. We've got a strong and valuable relationship with Mercedes-Benz. We would like to extend that relationship." He added, however, that the company had received "a number of approaches from various [other] manufacturers".

The final prospectus, with details of the offer, is due on October 27. Applications for shares have to be in by November 3, with the basis of allocation to be announced on November 4. Dealings should start on November 10.

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Earlier losses reduced

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began October 4. Dealings end October 15. Settlement day October 18. Forward margins are permitted on two previous business days. Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

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BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP									
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EC looks at state cash for Aer Lingus

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

THE EC launched a formal investigation of the Irish government's proposed injection of Ir£175 million (£167 million) in equity into Aer Lingus, the stricken state-owned airline.

The commission has invited comments on the proposal after ruling that the money, to be paid as part of a restructuring, would be state aid rather than an investment by a parent in a subsidiary.

British Midland, CityFlyer Express and Ryanair, which all compete with Aer Lingus on the Dublin-London route, have indicated that they will object to the aid package. Ferry operators that use the Irish sea may also seek to block it.

Aer Lingus lost more than Ir£188 million in the year to March 31. At that date, shareholders' funds had been reduced to Ir£93 million, from Ir£360 million 12 months earlier. The airline has debts of more than Ir£500 million and bankers have said that they may withdraw facilities. The equity injection was promised by the Irish government in July, in return for redundancies, a pay freeze and cost cutting that should save Aer Lingus Ir£50 million a year.

Sir Michael Bishop, British Midland chairman, demanded months ago that the EC should block state aid for Aer Lingus. British Midland, which made a profit of £800,000 last year, wrote to Brussels shortly after the Irish government's announcement.

British Midland said the commission's transport directorate should declare that the Ir£175 million was state aid and that the matter warranted investigation. A confidential British Midland letter to the EC set out the grounds on which Midland will now formally object to the package.

"In its investigation, the commission must establish the reasons why the company is in its current situation; must establish the use to which the proposed aid will be put and, further, must consult commercially interested parties in Ireland and other member states. In particular, the commission must consider the amount of the proposed aid that will be put to the maintenance of Aer Lingus's high-capacity, low-fare policy on its loss-making Dublin to Heathrow route and the introduction of (low-cost) Aer Lingus Express, which is widely expected to reintroduce competitive services between Dublin and Gatwick — services which it recently terminated due to the heavy losses incurred. As mentioned in our earlier letters (to the EC), the proposed state aid to Aer Lingus is likely to transfer that carrier's difficulties to its competitors."

CityFlyer Express, a small Gatwick-based airline that flies Dublin to Gatwick, said it could not compete with a state-subsidised airline. In July, it told the EC that "the proposed state aid would effectively transfer Aer Lingus's difficulties to CityFlyer Express and force (it) to withdraw from the route".

CityFlyer wants the EC to ban Aer Lingus from flying to Gatwick for three years, if the EC allows the Irish government to invest in Aer Lingus. Ryanair has said that it would be out of business within 18 months if Aer Lingus were allowed to use state money to subsidise a low-cost Dublin-London operation.

A senior official of the EC's transport directorate was recently quoted as saying that the rescue deal would "probably" be approved within two months.

Budget plea as N Brown profit rises 21%

BY SARAH BAGNALL



Jim Martin, chief executive of N Brown, checks merchandise that brought the mail order company improved results

N BROWN, the clothing and footwear mail order company, is calling for children's wear to be spared imposition of VAT in next month's Budget.

Jim Martin, chief executive, said: "We would prefer the Chancellor to leave children's clothing out of the equation, but any increase would have little effect as children's wear forms only a small part of our business."

N Brown, which specialises in clothing for older women and only recently moved into children's wear, yesterday announced a 21 per cent rise in interim pre-tax profit, further evidence that catalogue shopping continues to beat the High Street morass. Pre-tax profit for the 26 weeks to August 28 rose from £7.4 million to £9 million on turnover up 8 per cent to £86.2 million.

Sir David Alliance, chairman, said that this was "an encouraging start to the year", but annual results had a high dependence on activities in the peak selling months ahead.

The dividend rises 15.4 per cent, from 1.95p to 2.25p. Sir David said that this represented first-half performance and "an expression of confidence in the future of our business".

Daimler to scrap takeover defence

BY COLIN NARBROUGH
WORLD TRADE
CORRESPONDENT

DAIMLER-BENZ, Germany's industrial flagship, has taken a further step towards its goal of breaking free of the tight web that binds most of corporate Germany, with a move to terminate a key defensive arrangement.

The management boards of Daimler and Mercedes AG Holding (MAH), its second-largest shareholder, have proposed to their supervisory boards that the two companies should merge "as soon as possible". The tie-up is expected to take effect in February.

The merging of MAH into Daimler-Benz by giving the holding company's shareholders Daimler stock on a one-for-one basis, will remove an anti-takeover structure that has outlived its purpose and is considered undesirable in New York, where Daimler last week obtained a full listing, the first German company to do so.

MAH, the assets of which consist almost exclusively of 25.23 per cent of Daimler stock, is half owned by institutional investors. Its stake in Daimler is second only to that of Deutsche Bank, which holds 28 per cent.

According to a statement issued at Daimler's Stuttgart headquarters after two days of board meetings, in the run-up to the merger, which will be put to shareholders for approval in December, MAH's dividend is to be raised to 14.90 marks a DMS0 share, from DM13 last year. This represents a distribution of retained profits from past years and reflects tax changes.

Daimler's big board listing in New York was well received, though the market remains unsure whether the move will unleash a rush of German blue-chip companies to the American market. The Securities and Exchange Commission, the American market watchdog, has made clear that it is not prepared to soften its listing requirements to encourage other German firms.

Recognition of unions falls in private sector

BY PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

TRADE unions are not recognised in the majority of private sector companies, according to a new study. This suggests that union derecognition is now running at a faster rate in the recession.

The study, carried out jointly by the National Institute for Economic and Social Research and the London Business School, is the first examination of how badly the recession has hit trade unions' presence in British companies.

The study uses a statistical sample of large, quoted UK companies covering 14 per cent of all UK employment. In 1990, unions were recognised — acknowledged by the company for collective bargaining

purposes — in 52.9 per cent of plants, the survey shows, while there was no recognition at 47.1 per cent.

However, by 1993, the position had reversed, with the level of recognition falling to under half of the plants surveyed, at 48.6 per cent, while plants with no recognition stood at 51.4 per cent of the total.

The study suggests that a proportion of this 8 per cent fall in recognition was due to the attrition of firms during the recession and some change in the composition of the survey sample, but most was due to a lower propensity of companies that have survived the recession to recognise unions at all.

Consultancies to merge

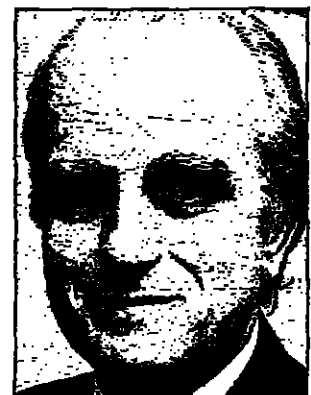
BY MARTIN BARROW, CITY NEWS EDITOR

AB CONSULTING and WSP are to merge, forming one of Britain's largest engineering consultancies, with 560 employees and combined turnover of more than £20 million.

The merger of the two listed companies will take place via a recommended all-share offer by WSP, valuing AB at £5.3 million and the enlarged group at £9.8 million. AB directors have given irrevocable undertakings to accept the offer in respect of 11.2 per cent of their company.

The merger continues consolidation during the recession, as consulting engineers attempt to adapt to a reduced UK workload while maintaining adequate resources to compete for work overseas. In the year to April 30, AB

incurred losses of £1.15 million before tax, against profits of £44,000 previously. It was adversely affected by late settlement of debts, notably by



Cole remains chief

London Underground. Net assets at the year end were £5.36 million.

Neither has WSP escaped the impact of recession, seeing profits shrink to £560,000 before tax from £1.06 million in 1992. In the six months to June 30, the company earned £279,000 before tax, compared with £352,000 previously.

WSP provides design engineering services in building, heavy industrial and motorway communications; AB specialises in civil, structural and building services. News of the merger lifted AB shares 8p to 48p; WSP was unchanged at 42p.

Christopher Cole, WSP's managing director, will be managing director of the enlarged group.

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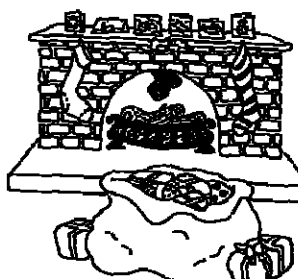
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ACCOUNTANCY

Nightmare for the Big Six

By GRAHAM SEARJEANT

JOHN Roques, the thinking senior partner of Touche Ross, is now facing the nightmare that all the Big Six accountancy firms dread. Because of its role, including that of a recently merged partnership, as auditor of relatively small public companies, a threat hangs over potential public sector business, running into tens of millions of pounds.

The issue also poses problems in Whitehall. Ministers want to use outside accountants more, but will be limited for most practical purposes to six or seven firms, all of which have either been in dispute with official bodies or criticised by DTI inspectors.

TR has not been blacklisted as a firm. Rather, Sir Alan Hardcastle, the retiring head of the government accountancy service (Hotgas), told government departments not to use seven of its partners, including John Connolly, its London managing partner, over their much-disputed role in reporting on companies closely involved in the Barlow Clowes affair, over which the government is suing the firm.

Sir Alan also said, however, that departments should "consider the terms" of any future contract with Touche Ross, in

the light of the lawsuit. Mr Roques has put a brave face on this. He said: "We have every expectation that we will continue to be selected on our merits to serve a wide variety of government departments." Yet Arthur Andersen, subject to a comparable lawsuit by the government seeking triple damages over its audit of the De Lorean car firm, has, in practice, won no government audit work in nearly a decade.

The ubiquity of the big firms means they are almost bound to be involved in controversy. For instance, Touche Ross, in its role as liquidator of BCCI, has not made friends at the Bank of England. As administrator of Polly Peck, it asked the Conservative party to return money sent by Asil Nadir. As auditor of Trafalgar House, it was necessarily involved in the dispute between the company and the Financial Reporting Review Panel, though Touche was not criticised by its regulator.

That Touche and Andersen, rather than other big firms, have been sued by the government as opposed to, say, the Bank of England or by liquidators, is largely chance. A new study of DTI inspectors' reports, by Prem Sikka and



John Roques, of Touche Ross, is putting a brave face on the situation

Hugh Willmott, suggests that Touche and Andersen are the only Big Six firms not to have been criticised in reports published in recent years.

One purpose of that study was to show that any disciplinary consequences were mild and related only to individual partners. If government were, in practice, to discriminate

against whole firms, it would dish out much bigger punishments — over unresolved cases — than any regulator. Mr Sikka argues: "If the government is serious about cleaning up the auditing industry, this is a sanction it could usefully apply." In America, auditors criticised by government bodies are routinely blacklisted for a period.

Such a threat would surely hasten the rethink at the big firms over new clients. With so much bigger business at risk, they might be more chary about relatively small accounts that do not warrant supervision by top partners. During the recession, some big firms have instead started competing more fiercely for work better suited to medium-sized firms.

Andrew Lickierman, the incoming Hotgas, also has something to think about. The government has recently launched a programme to contract out as much accountancy work as possible. In July, for instance, the corporate affairs minister launched a study (using outside consultants) of contracting out work of official receivers.

Government, having taken so little interest in the rash of big accountancy mergers, will surely rue its ensuing lack of choice. There may be opportunities here for ambitious medium-sized firms and, if the Big Six see the strategic virtue of specialisation, scope for the odd demerger.

Facing up to audit responsibilities

A CURIOUS travelling debate show has been criss-crossing the country on an occasional basis over the past year. Even more curious is that its theme is the future of audit regulation. A decade ago, you could not have given tickets away. These days, it draws its crowds.

The latest show was in Bristol on Monday. Under the auspices of the West of England society of chartered accountants, the "Auditing in Crisis?" debate raged at the University of the West of England. At its heart were the two people who have made the debates so popular — Austin Mitchell, flamboyant MP for Great Gribnaby, and Bill Morrison, quiet purveyor of experience and founding chairman of the Auditing Practices Board.

The two could not be more different. Mitchell knows a good reforming rallying cry when he hears one and knows that the public's distaste for what he calls "the sleaze" of corporate scandals can be carried forward into the creation of an independent government-funded regulatory body for the financial and business world. Morrison believes that the profession stands or falls by the integrity and, more important, the soundness of its members. If that is translated into a tough regulatory environment run from within the accountancy profession, he sees no need for quangoes to do the job.

On the platform, the two complement each other perfectly. Gesticulating Mitchell, clad in comic-book tie, imploring his audience with noisy humour to see the logic of his sequence of measures. Avuncular Morrison, trying with his pipe, making his points carefully to bring the audience to understand that a well-policed integrity is the goal. The questions are, which of the solutions will come to pass and whether auditors should take so much of the blame for the existence of Mitchell's "sleaze". Certainly, if a straw poll in Bristol is anything to go by, the feeling that government regulation is inevitable is gaining ground.

The audience was almost equally split between the concepts of self-regulation or state regulation. Three years ago, there would have been a big majority for self-regulation. The solution may lie in remarks made by the other panellists. Emile Woolf, from the firm of Kingston Smith, has become an expert in professional indemnity and liability and has seen more inside cases at the sharp end than most. He agreed there had been a huge amount of sub-standard auditing work done,

mostly among the "thousands of auditors who are not yet operating in the last quarter of the 20th century". But he felt that times had changed. He made two significant points. The regulatory systems within the profession were now starting to bite in a serious way. At the top end of the profession, it was no longer possible to argue that people were in league with their clients and no one could argue that anyone in the profession looked forward either to appearing before the JMU, which monitors audit regulation, or the Review Panel, which monitors financial reporting.

But he also argued that the public perception of corporate sleaze would be transformed if jailed businessmen were subjected to what he described as hard labour rather than the perceived easy life of Ford open prison. The public felt that fraudsters had rather too easy a brush with justice. This view tied in with some of the audience, who argued that after a corporate collapse, the blame was too easily diverted from the board of the company, which had caused the collapse, to the auditors, who were there to ensure propriety. The remaining panel member, Louis Sherwood, HTV's chairman, expressed the debate's dilemma succinctly. "I agree with Bill Morrison's comments, but I agree with Austin Mitchell's conclusions." And that, surely, is the way the audit and regulatory system will evolve.

In the end, it is a matter of responsibilities. We live in an era where responsibility is a muddled concept. A company chairman defrauds his company. The subsequent collapse causes huge financial loss and human suffering. It undoubtedly is the chairman's and the board of directors' responsibility. But the lawyers for those who have suffered the loss know that they will not retrieve any cash from that source. The auditors are the only ones who have, by law, to be insured. If financial restitution is to occur, the responsibility has to be switched. If pensioners are to regain their pensions or shareholders their lost capital, the auditors have to be made to seem responsible, regardless of their actions. But it is a legal, rather than a direct, responsibility.

As long as a system exists that allows people to evade the results of their responsibilities, there will always be an almost overwhelming cry for someone else to step in and sort it out. And in a democracy, in the end, that has to be the government.



ROBERT BRUCE

Institute plan to widen chamber

DRAFT — yes I said draft — proposals from the English Institute of Chartered Accountants argue for an increase in the number of elected seats on its council from 60 to 70, raising the possible maximum on the already unwieldy body by ten to 90, once co-opted places are included. Plans are afoot, however, to reduce the time past presidents routinely stay on the council from about six to two years.

Bowen's post

JOHN Bowen has been appointed secretary of the

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

23,000-strong London Society of Chartered Accountants (LSCA) after Brian Edmunds' retirement. Bowen, who has more than 30 years' industrial experience, most recently with Whitbread, joined the LSCA in November 1991, as deputy secretary with special responsibility for the London Business Board and the London Practitioner Board.

Anchors away

PARTNERS of Smith & Williamson took to the ocean at the weekend as part of the firm's protracted centenary

celebrations — and came out with flying colours. A crew of six on the Contessa 32 Catherine won the City Yacht Club's regatta off the Isle of White, in marked contrast to 1992's dismal show, for which they were awarded the "upturned anchor" trophy prize. The firm has now won the race three times in its 11-year history.

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GOOD and bad news at HM Customs and Excise. The good news is that the guardians of our borders are much better at disseminating information to

traders, according to a survey by the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants. The bad news is that they do not pass the same information to their own staff — with predictable results. Local VAT officers are often unable to advise traders. CIMA discovered, although they are at least willing to find the answers. A case for training, says CIMA.

MISCREANTS at Ernst & Young had better be on their guard — the firm has opened an office in Baku, capital of Azerbaijan in the troublesome Caucasus. The threat of a posting to Baku could strike terror in the boldest heart.

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PENSION FUND MANAGEMENT

The industry is poised for more upheavals in the coming year, Rodney Hobson says

Billion pound market movers

If the pensions industry seems to have taken the recently published Goode report on pension law reform in its stride, perhaps it is because practitioners are getting used to upheaval. Margaret Grainger, president of the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service, says: "There is a major change, with long-lasting results, every ten years or so. Most of these changes have resulted directly or indirectly from new legislation. After each change the cry has been for a lengthy period of stability and consolidation but this cry is not much heard today. Everyone accepts that much will alter in the next year or so."

Those words appear in the 1993 edition of *Pension Funds and Their Advisers*, the industry handbook published by AP Information Services. The book's editor, Alan Philipp, says: "Pension funds and their trustees have to act with more diligence than ever before. Indeed, they may feel as if they continuously need to look over their shoulders without knowing who will be the next to try to influence them or alter the

way they work. "Will it be the report from the Goode Commission: or members trying to ensure that their rights are fully protected; or the employers and shareholders trying to reduce contributions and even reclaim surpluses; or trade unions trying to change the composition of the board of trustees; or the EC with 101 rulings?"

Whatever the problems, the pensions industry can console itself with the thought that it is huge and growing. Precise estimates are difficult, but the total value of assets held by pension funds is certainly above £200 billion. The highest concentration is in the South East. AP Information estimates that more than £200 billion is held in funds based in and around London.

The British Coal and BT pension funds are each worth more than £12 billion. Another six funds, including Postel, the post office fund, and the British Gas fund, control over £5 billion each. Altogether, 45 funds top the £1 billion mark. Typically, they invest just over 50 per cent in UK shares, a proportion that has been growing. Smaller funds will



Tim Keeley, of Solomon Hare, says that policy-holders need much better advice

have about 10 per cent of assets in fixed interest investments and larger funds about 5 per cent. Perhaps 2 per cent will go into gilts and 5 per cent into UK property. Up to 5 per cent will be held as cash or on deposit. The rest will be invested overseas.

Such wealth can give invest-

ment managers enormous clout, particularly when it is added to the billions invested through insurance policies and other savings — the Prudential holds about 5 per cent of the entire stock market.

Tim Keeley, tax partner at Solomon Hare, says: "Pension funds are significant share-

holders and they are in a position to affect the stock market price if they buy or sell in bulk."

Fund managers traditionally exert influence privately and have often preferred to sell their holdings in a company rather than provoke a fight, but they are slowly becoming more determined in their arm-twisting of the boards of the companies in which they invest.

Postel caused a stir by saying that it would oppose lengthy directors' contracts that mean huge payoffs for executives who are fired. In the past 18 months £43 million was paid to 93 departing executives of companies listed on the stock exchange.

Fund managers are credited with forcing BAT, the tobacco and finance conglomerate, to split up the group. They exerted pressure behind the scenes to persuade Barclays Bank to split the roles of chairman and chief executive. They have complained of generous share options at ASDA, and resisted an attempt by the Ratner chairman to take on the chief executive's role as well.

Postel tried to finance a rescue of Greycourt, a debt-laden property group. CINven, the British Coal and British Rail fund, is leading one of the groups bidding to buy William Hill, the bookmaker.

These actions are moving pension funds into longer-term relationships with the companies they invest in, going some way to counter criticism that they take too short term a view and do not give the companies the benefit of their experience and advice.

In addition, as pension funds and their investments grow, it will become difficult to dump 2 or 3 per cent or more in a company on the stock market without the seller pushing down the price before it has got rid of most of the holding.

Mr Keeley believes that the pensions sector will grow faster as people realise that the value of a state pension is going to shrink in real terms because of the burden imposed by an aging population.

With 11 million people already in occupational schemes, much of that growth will come in personal pension schemes for people who want to top up their state entitlements. However, much of the investment in personal pension schemes is being squandered because policies are cashed in too soon, in the same way as endowment policies. Mr Keeley says that administrative costs are heavily loaded into the early years of a pension policy. When policyholders switch jobs and join a firm's scheme, they often try to switch the existing saving into the new employer's fund.

He says: "A lot of money can be swallowed up in the transfer costs. People will in future want more information on commissions and likely rates of return." Such challenges are part and parcel of the changing world of pension fund management.

Goode report earns respect

Proposals stop short of undue tampering

to monitor and enforce proper standards in the administration of occupational pension schemes.

However, there is some concern that Professor Goode has failed to offer a genuine safeguard against employers raiding pension schemes in the way that Robert Maxwell appropriated the Mirror funds.

The report has gone to Peter Lilley, the social security secretary, who will decide what action to take. Professor Goode says: "We have refrained from recommending changes which, though they might be logical or fair, would cause serious practical problems."

Nigel Moore, a solicitor at McKenna & Co, points out

some areas of potential concern. "I must admit that I was surprised at the different treatment of members and pensioners in terms of representation on the board of trustees. The members are guaranteed a voice under the Goode recommendations. The report says it is good practice to include a pensioner among the trustees but it is not required."

Mr Moore also pointed to the absence of specific recommendations on the use to which a pension fund surplus can be put. He says: "It is an emotive subject and perhaps for that reason Professor Goode did not declare a position." This was the issue raised most in submissions to the commission.

Mr Moore said that there was also some surprise at the failure to produce a clear ruling on who should have custody of the assets. Pension fund members argue that if someone such as a bank outside the Maxwell empire had been signing the cheques, Robert Maxwell would not have been able to shunt the assets of the Mirror newspapers and Maxwell Communications Corp pension funds around his various businesses.

Much will depend on the role of the watchdog that Professor Goode proposed should replace the Occupational Pensions Board, a body that has been heavily criticised, perhaps unfairly given its limited powers.



Professor Roy Goode, QC, introduces his report

EMPLOYEES IN PENSION SCHEMES 1953-1991

Year	Private sector		Public sector		Total members	Total employed	Percentage employed who are members	
	Men	Women	Men	Women			Men	Women
1953	2.5	0.6	2.4	0.7	6.2	21.9	34	18
1956	3.5	0.8	2.9	0.8	8.0	22.7	43	21
1963	6.4	0.8	3.0	0.9	11.1	22.9	63	26
1967	6.8	1.3	3.1	1.0	12.2	23.2	66	28
1971	5.5	1.3	3.2	1.1	11.1	22.5	62	29
1975	4.9	1.1	3.7	1.7	11.4	23.1	63	30
1979	4.6	1.5	3.7	1.8	11.6	23.4	62	35
1983	4.4	1.4	3.4	1.9	11.1	21.1	64	37
1987	4.4	1.4	2.8	2.0	10.6	21.6	60	35
1991	4.5	2.0	2.3	1.9	10.7	22.5	57	37

*The table excludes employees who have some pension rights but are not accruing benefits in current employment. Sources for scheme members: for 1953 the report of the Philips Committee, subsequently, surveys by the government actuary.

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How to choose a star performer

Choosing which fund manager should manage the assets of a company pension scheme has never been easy. It is about to undergo closer scrutiny with the arrival of member trustees — be they current employees or pensioners in the scheme — one of the recommendations of Professor Roy Goode's pensions law review committee.

With a bewildering array of fund managers and types of fund to invest in, it is no longer simply a question of finding out who has the best past-performance and approaching them. Type of fund, the ages of people in the fund, how cautiously it needs to be managed and the fees charged are all part of the equation.

Help is at hand from independent pension fund advisers whose job it is to help choose suitable fund managers. The National Association of Pension Funds (NAPF), the pensions industry's trade body, has also devoted time to this and has guidance available to trustees.

The difficulty of the task is confirmed by experienced pension schemes. Grand Metropolitan recently decided to examine its funds. Ron Army, the benefits director,

James Hopegood explains how trustees can seek advice to find the right fund manager

who is also the NAP chairman, says: "What tends to happen with trustees is that the past performance of a manager influences them. When you get under the skin, it is about real quality processes in investment management as well as the strategic processes and evaluating stock picking."

"It is not just an investment house, but the individual manager that has qualities. The days when you went for the guy with the best performance are gone."

Consulting actuaries Hymans Robertson advise about 40 of the UK's local authority pension funds. Investment consultant Margot Bowie says that the "beauty parade" where the trustees finally choose the fund manager is the end of a lengthy process.

She says the first step is to look at the background of fund managers and the ownership of funds, a lot of whom are owned by big organisations such as banks. The degree of influence exercised by the owner as well as the stability of ownership are important, she says, as small subsidiaries may find themselves on the sidelines in their big parents' plans.

Performance is important over the past three to five years, but Ms Bowie says an investment manager cannot be top of all of the time, so the thinking behind the way they manage the money is equally important. This will include the asset allocation the manager makes, and how much and what sort of risks are taken. She also looks at whether fund management houses follow a set house style or model portfolio, or give their individual managers free rein.

Ms Bowie says: "It is not enough just to look at the best performer. You have got to understand how this is achieved through asset allocation and what sort of risks are taken," she says.

Investment houses have their own star-performing fund managers, she says, but it is important to



The "beauty parade" where the trustees finally choose the fund manager is the end of a lengthy process, says Margot Bowie

know whether they will be kept in the jobs they do best. "We want to know how fund managers are rewarded and how the companies keep up their incentives. There have been cases where a star fund manager becomes a director of the company and that takes him away

from the job he is very good at." Ms Bowie says that before they pick a manager, pension fund trustees should have a clear idea of what they want the fund manager to do for them, something advisers can help with. "A very important role for the independent consultant

is the need to establish what the objectives of the fund are and I do not think people concentrate enough on setting the objectives," she says.

Mr Army adds that the addition of member trustees does not have to confuse the situation. Grand Met-

ropolitan has had them since the late 1970s and, far from hindering the scheme, they lend an extra thoroughness to the way it works. "They assist the process. Management may tend to cut corners, but member trustees go through the whole process," he says.

Who owns the surplus cash in a fund?

Employers and unions often disagree over excess reserves

The ownership of a pension fund surplus is one of the most contentious issues for occupational schemes. A surplus exists if the pension fund has more money than it needs to cover its liabilities. While this may sound straightforward, the nature of pension liabilities — the payment of pensions for many years into the future — means the amount deemed to be surplus will vary widely according to investments and other assumptions made by the scheme actuary.

These include earnings increases, investment returns, mortality rates, the length of members' service with the company and the number of members taking early retirement, either in good or poor health.

For example, the surplus of the London Regional Transport pension fund would fall by more than 35 per cent, from £460 million to £293 million, if the scheme's actuary were to reduce the assumed rate of future dividend growth by just 0.5 per cent. However the real argument is over who should

in five years or face the threat of losing their tax exempt status. The recent report on pension law reform from a committee chaired by Roy Goode, professor of English law at Oxford University, has suggested the period over which this surplus can be run down should be extended.

The long recession has encouraged companies to use their pension fund surpluses to reduce the cost of redundancies, and employee confidence in pension fund security was badly shaken by the Maxwell pension scandal.

Court rulings had intended to support employers' claims to ownership of the surplus. This interpretation was also supported by the Goode report. The report says: "In the case of a balance of costs scheme the preponderance of judicial opinion is that surplus represents over-funding by the employer, to whom it therefore belongs."

The unions, and the campaign for pension fund democracy, continues to put the case for employees and pensioners — relying, in part, on the so-called Barber judgment, an important 1990 decision by the European Court of Justice which ruled that pensions should be treated as pay for the purposes of the Treaty of Rome, which requires equal pay for equal work, regardless of sex.

The uncertain nature of pension fund surpluses was demonstrated by a tax change made in the last Budget. An apparently minor change to advanced corporation tax resulted in a significant drop in the income which pension funds expect to earn in the future. As a consequence, several large companies, including BT, have cut short their contribution holidays and have resumed pension payments.

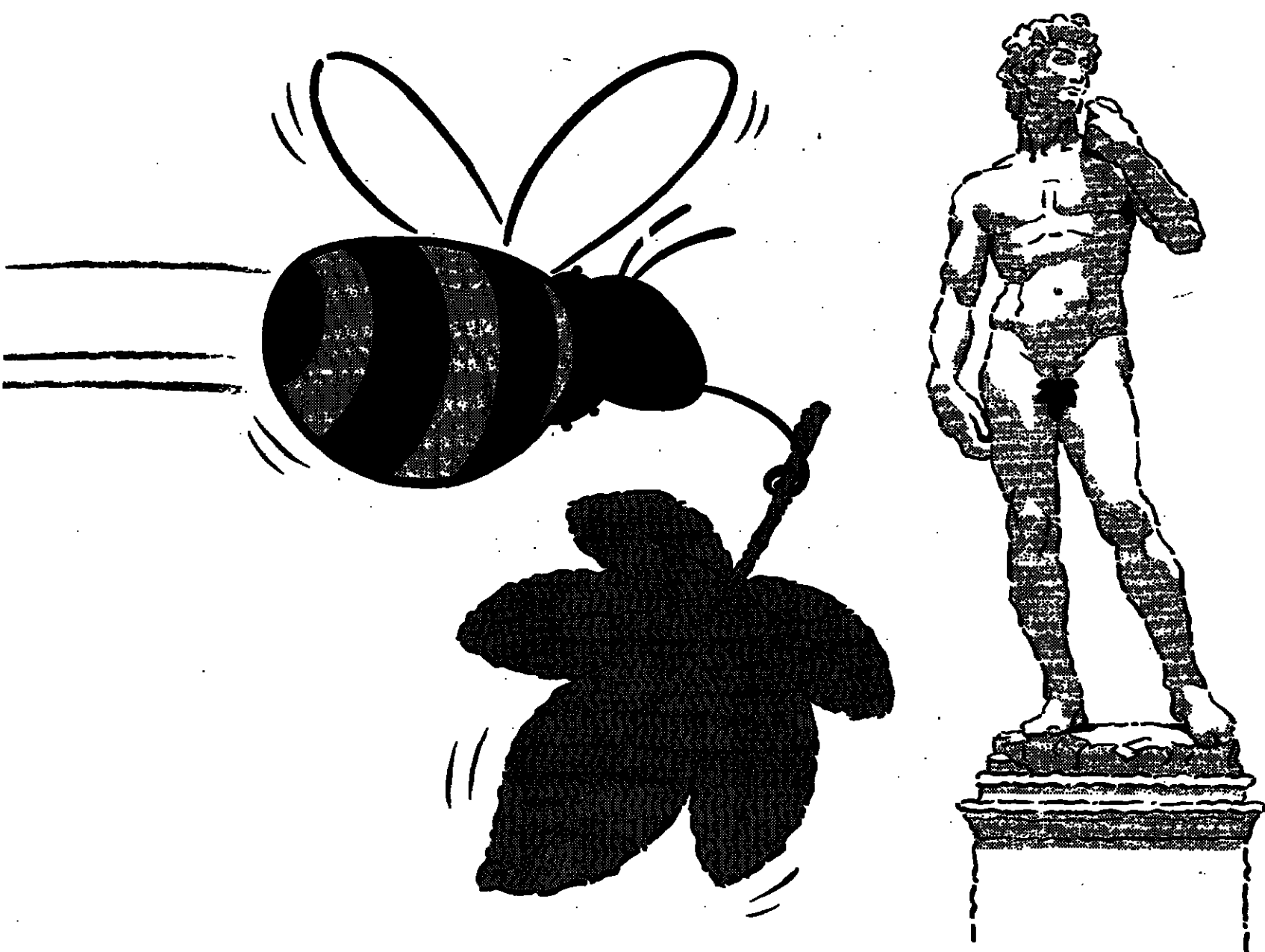
What happens to pension fund surpluses is a key issue in the forthcoming privatisation of British Rail and British Coal. Earlier this year the government planned to take between £3 billion and £4.25 billion of the British Rail pension scheme's £8.5 billion assets. Trustees and the unions argued that such a move would put the government in breach of a ministerial commitment to allow the pension fund to stand alone.

The government has now guaranteed index-linked pensions for current and deferred pensioners by creating a closed scheme, using 40 per cent of any surplus to enhance benefits and the remaining 60 per cent as reserves.

The government attempted to pay British Coal redundancies out of the pension scheme surplus, but this move was blocked by court action. The government is now proposing to set up separate schemes for pensioners and employees.

JILL INSLEY

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7/14-10/93/PEN

Are EC citizens forced to stay put?

One important ingredient was missing when the European Community freed the movement of goods and services between its member nations last January: legislation on pension funds.

Europe's citizens can move around to work and live in all 12 countries, but they cannot take their pension schemes with them. Hopes of a breakthrough have been dashed as three years of work have been referred back to the Commission for redrafting.

The EC set up a working party to draw up a pensions directive 36 months ago. Three basic cross-border freedoms were to be established: pension fund managers in one country would be able to run funds in other countries; they would be able to invest the funds in other countries; and members could join schemes administered outside the country where they worked.

This last proposal would effectively allow the creation of European pension funds. It was the first to fall by the wayside.

The EC did manage to draw up a directive enshrining the first two freedoms. Unfortunately, a limit of 20 per cent was put on the proportion of funds that could be invested in another EC country.

George Clare, of Watsons the actuaries, says: "That would actually have taken away from UK pension funds some of the freedom we now exercise judiciously."

For the individuals caught in the web, the matter is rather urgent. It is estimated that there are 256,000 migrant workers in the EC with occu-

Workers can move about, but they are not able to take their pensions with them, Rodney Hobson reports

pational pension rights. The largest number, 77,000, are from Ireland and the next highest, 60,000, are from the UK. They have taken advantage of EC treaty articles requiring equal treatment for migrants and nationals of other EC states in employment. The protection of pension rights is supposed to be a key aspect of the free movement of workers.

The migrants have, however, come up against barriers such as restrictions on continuing membership of schemes run by former employers, a legal obligation to join a pension scheme in the host country, curbs on tax deductions for employee pension contributions and the taxing of employer contributions as a benefit in kind.

Large employers, too, could make use of pan-European pension schemes. Multinational companies may have more than one home base. Royal Dutch Shell is an outstanding example of Anglo-Dutch co-operation. Arjo Wiggins, the paper group, also has Dutch and British ownership. Carnaudmetalbox is part French, part British.

"Supposing a company such as Marks & Spencer wanted to put all the employees in its stores in France and Belgium

under the same fund manager who was running the UK scheme," Mr Clare says. "It would find the present arrangements very restrictive. It ought to be able to invest the funds anywhere within the EC."

The European Commission's good intentions of cross-border freedoms for pension funds has been frustrated by political obstacles and the variety of different systems in operation.

France and Greece feel that interference in their semi-state schemes would be unacceptable. German protectionism continues to favour its own insurance industry and the Dutch are afraid that their civil service scheme might invest too much money abroad.

In some countries — such as Holland, Germany and Spain — employees have a right to have representatives on the board of trustees of occupational pension schemes. This right does not yet exist in Britain. In Denmark, companies must make some provision for their blue-collar workers.

"Smaller countries feared that their capital markets would suffer if asset managers chose more attractive foreign investments," Mr Clare says.

"The fear, for example, that most Irish pension assets would be absorbed into UK pension funds was understandable."

While Britain accounts for more than half the £600 billion European pension fund industry, the drive for greater freedom has come from a British commissioner, Sir Leon Brittan. However, there is some suspicion of the British way of doing things in the wake of the Maxwell pensions scandal.

British interests are lobbying furiously for fear that a wishy-washy directive will be produced, satisfying national reservations but achieving little. The scale of the battle can be seen from the fact that a definition still has to be found for the term pension fund, and in particular the criteria by which it can be distinguished from provisions made by the state.

Some urgency may be injected as governments try to grapple with the Europe-wide problem of a rapidly ageing population. Just under a fifth of the EC's 320 million citizens are now aged 60 or over. With better health care and lower birth rates, by 2010 that proportion will have risen to 23 per cent with only Portugal and Ireland having figures still below 20 per cent. The most pessimistic predictions put the proportion as high as 37 per cent by 2020.

Retirement ages vary from a low of 55 for women in Italy to a high of 67 for both sexes in Denmark. Whatever success the EC may have in harmonising arrangements, it is clear that a greater welfare burden will fall on fewer earners.



Ken Pyne

The Goode report has recommended that the present system for keeping a check on the industry be simplified. Jill Insley writes

Where to turn with a problem



Michael Platt: independent

Among the problems of the present pensions regime is the confusing array of official bodies which oversee this complex area.

Those with pensions problems might seek help from the Occupational Pensions Advisory Service (OPAS), the Pensions Ombudsman, the Occupational Pensions Schemes Office, the Department of Social Security and the Inland Revenue. Unfortunately, most

of these bodies only have responsibility over some of the many areas involved.

For this reason, the Goode committee on pension law reform recommended simplifying the system with a single pensions regulator together with a beefed-up OPAS and Ombudsman. However, these proposals will not be implemented for two or three years.

The Investment Management Regulatory Organ-

isation (Imro) regulates the companies who manage pension fund assets. Vanessa Peters, an assistant director with Imro, says that since the Maxwell pension scandal, the regulator has beefed up rules relating to the management of pension fund assets, particularly where this is carried out by an in-house fund manager. It has also increased its own powers of intervention to prevent misuse of pension assets

in the control of Imro-regulated companies. These pension fund managers are now subject to the same rules applied to the fund managers who are Imro's main responsibility.

The Occupational Pensions Board (OPB), a statutory body, is responsible for ensuring pension schemes meet the requirements which entitle them to contract out of Serps. It also supervises the schemes, making sure they can provide the guaranteed minimum pensions which they must offer as a condition of contracting out. The OPB's third role is to ensure equal access and full information to the scheme for all employees.

The board has also been appointed as the Registrar of Occupational and Personal Pension Schemes. It helps members of the public to trace their preserved pension benefits — assets left over in a previous scheme.

The OPAS should be the first port of call for any pension scheme member with a problem. This grant-aided body provides free help and advice to scheme members who have difficulty in either understanding or obtaining pension rights. The service, which is provided by 505 volunteer actuaries, employee benefits specialists and insurance company staff, dealt with 25,000 queries in 1992-3.

Penny Green, deputy chief executive for OPAS, says

many queries can be dealt with by a simple letter or phone call. Only 2,500 of this year's queries required major enquiries. OPAS also operates as a conciliation and negotiation service. This is useful for people who have transferred out of their occupational pension scheme to a personal plan. Some schemes have tried to discourage members from transferring out by refusing readmittance.

"In such a case, if the member has been given bad financial advice and the insurance company will pay for the member to go back into the occupational scheme, we can negotiate and hopefully get an agreement," Ms Green says.

If OPAS cannot find a solution to a case, it can pass it on to the Pensions Ombudsman. In 1992-3, 67 cases were referred.

Michael Platt, the Pensions Ombudsman, was appointed in 1990 to deal with complaints against and disputes with occupational and personal pension schemes. He is independent, acting as impartial adjudicator, and his decisions are legally binding. The Ombudsman does not, however, deal with problems relating to areas policed by the OPB and regulators such as Imro, Fimbra and Lauro.

Imro 071-628 6022; OPB: 091-225 644; OPAS 071-233 8000; Pension Ombudsman 071-834 9144



Penny Green, the deputy chief executive for OPAS

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Managers settle for a safe home

When the government announced this year's £50 million public sector borrowing requirement, it knew it would have to rely on the financial markets and their major clients, the institutional managers, to fund it.

The government has to raise the £50 billion using fixed interest securities or gilts. Gilts have either fixed terms and yields or are linked to the Retail Prices Index. Their attraction depends largely on the yield in relation to inflation. Sales or auctions of gilts have been running each month since the Budget in March, except for August.

So far the government has not had to wrap itself in the Union Jack to get pension fund managers to buy up the gilts issues. According to the Bank of England, £35 billion of the £50 billion has so far been raised by a mixture of gilts auctions, National Savings bought by individuals, and so-called "tap issues" to specialists.

Before the Budget, the idea was mooted that different types of gilts could be issued that would better meet the needs of pension funds and insurance companies and would make the sales more

attractive. This has not, however, proved necessary, although the Bank of England keeps an eye on the markets to decide what existing type of gilt will get the best reception.

One senior fund manager says that the idea of buying gilts to bale out the government would simply not enter most managers' minds. Their job is to get the best returns for the clients: the occupational pension schemes. Gilts, he says, are used to build security into pension funds. They do out-perform equities and at present with low inflation look attractive.

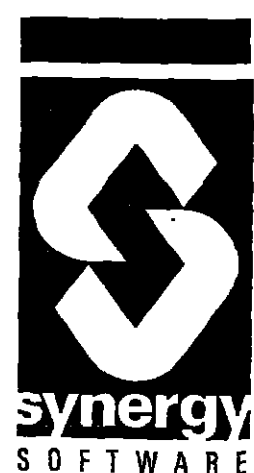
Stewart Ritchie, Scottish Equitable pensions director, says that forcing managers to buy gilts would be counter-productive. "I think the investment manager is responsible to his client. If the client were to instruct him to take a nationalistic turn that would be one thing. But giving the manager anything other than a free hand is restricting investment," he says.

Mr Ritchie says that when a pension fund reaches maturity, with more members nearing retirement age, schemes tend to move into gilts as more secure investments.

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MUSIC page 38

Simon Rattle leads
a majestic performance
of the unfinished
Bruckner's Ninth

THEATRE page 39

All's well at the RSC:
Shakespeare's most
troublesome play is
revived at the Barbican

ARTS

CINEMA: Geoff Brown comes away disappointed, for differing reasons, by a great director and proven story-teller

Blue with cold – and a Sun without heat

I worry about Krzysztof Kieslowski. He is one of the most powerful directors alive. In *Three Colours: Blue* the opening shots alone deal the audience a body blow, recreating a fatal car crash through ominous, pressurised images. Yet despite the awards collected at Venice, where the film shared the Gold Lion with Robert Altman's *Short Cuts*, something has been mislaid in the movie. In France, the director's current production base.

His Polish films reverberated with an acute sense of place and time; for all their symbolic weight, the Warsaw residents of *The Ten Commandments* still felt like human beings. But who do we find in *Blue*, the first in a trilogy exploring the French Revolution's war cry, Liberty, Equality and Fraternity? Impenetrable ciphers, marooned in a Paris we never really feel, smell, or believe in.

To some degree, the film's enclosed world reflects the story. The car crash kills a world-famous composer and his young daughter, leaving a shell-shocked widow (Juliette Binoche). She starts from zero, selling all possessions, living a nondescript life in a flat to match. But her husband's music will not let down: it explodes in thunder on the soundtrack.

Blue, in Kieslowski's scheme, is the colour of liberty; the film suggests how personal freedom becomes circumscribed by the pull of the past and the need for love. Blue is also the colour of swimming pool water, a pendant of jewels and a lollipop wrapper. Slawomir Idziak controls the photography with consummate skill.

Binoche's contribution is crucial. Rarely off-camera, she uses a range of frozen faces that give little clue to what happens within. Her inscrutable looks and stances convinced the Venice Film Festival jury: they awarded Binoche the Best Actress prize. But a more open performance would surely help audiences find their way deeper into the character's psychological dilemma.

Here lies a curious paradox. Judged by his exterior display, *Blue* is a film of intense feeling. Wrenching chords from Zbigniew Preisner, the soundtrack's composer, erupt without warning. When the doctored rings, Binoche drops a flowerpot. Even the imagery lives on its nerves: Kieslowski's quick, cryptic cutting seems to say: Yet overall, the film appears to cry, remote. We remain on the outside, looking in, admiring the artistry, feeling nothing; and the more high-pitched Kieslowski's scenes grow, the more we freeze over.

Perhaps the trilogy's other films will reverse the disquieting trend, or at least make the forbidding tone of *Blue* more explicable. The second film, *White*, takes place in Warsaw; the third, *Red*, in Switzer-



Femme fatale and a woman fighting fate – Tia Carrere (left) in the all-action, high-technology *Rising Sun* and Juliette Binoche in *Three Colours: Blue*, the first part of Krzysztof Kieslowski's trilogy



land. At the moment, though, *Blue* displays the brilliant technique of a great director, but not the insights or nuances.

Rising Sun, culled from Michael Crichton's best-selling tale of murder and Japanese-American business, disappoints in another way. This should have been rousing popular entertainment, but it turns out to be a film about a man asking for your popcorn back.

In other films the two stars have charisma to spare. Not here. Wesley Snipes holds his fire as the detective investigating a sordid death at a Japanese conglomerate's L.A. headquarters. Gruff charm may cling to Sean Connery, Snipes's mentor and an expert in matters Japanese, but his character is vague and his dialogue worse.

Produced by Fox, not one of the Hollywood majors controlled by Japanese interests, *Rising Sun* still trends cautiously, softening Crichton's swipes at Tokyo business practices. Yet it is the script's clumsiness that causes most difficulties: Snipes and Connery's progress is repeatedly halted by expository speeches, awkward diversions and forward flashes.

One area in Philip Kaufman's film flourishes happily: the atmosphere department. Under the masterful eye of production designer Dean Tavoularis, rain hurls down on Los Angeles's seediest streets, while the business HQ purrs with luxury. Once security camera videos enter the plot, there is talk of pixels, image manipulation, and the film captures Crichton's enthusiasm for technology.

Visually, *Rising Sun* is often resplendent. But why did so much go haywire? Nervousness, perhaps; the script certainly suffers from too many second thoughts. And the director may not have helped. Kaufman, esteemed for *The Right Stuff*, was an adventurous choice, but one with a more populist bent might have licked this aggravating film into better shape.

Now comes a success story. Many European directors take a tumble when they get Hollywood backing and a script in English. Yet Agnieszka Holland, the Polish-born director based in Paris, comes up trumps with *The Secret Garden*, shot in Britain and funded by Francis Coppola's company American Zoetrope. Her recent

Three Colours: Blue
Lumiere, 15, 98 mins
Kieslowski's brilliant, cold psychological drama

Rising Sun
Odeon Leicester Square, 18, 129 mins
Handsome but botched adaptation of thriller by Michael Crichton

The Secret Garden
Warner West End, U, 100 mins
Accomplished version of the children's classic

True Romance
Odeon Haymarket, 18, 119 mins
Hollow, excessive road movie

films, although art-house hits, have suffered from visual anaemia. But this is full-blooded, courageous cinema: a film that dares to entertain children without ninja turtles or dinosaurs.

American Zoetrope began tinkering with Frances Hodgson

Burnett's novel after their success with *The Black Stallion* 12 years ago. It scarcely fits current screen formulae. Mary, an orphan, is sent to live in her reclusive uncle's Yorkshire mansion, clearly adjacent to Wuthering Heights. There is no affection, little sunlight, only a stern housekeeper (Maggie Smith), the uncle's bedridden young heir, and an overgrown garden, once tended by her late aunt. As Mary tames the wilderness, nature feels the characters' inner spirits.

Although sheep, goats and geese roam the foliage created by production designer Stuart Craig, this is no Disneyfied drama. Holland accentuates the oppressive regime, the blighted air, at Misselthwaite mansion: tots will certainly find the film too gloomy. This is a film for older children, who can penetrate the burgeoning emotions evoked so well by Holland's young British actors, Kate Maberly and Heydon Prowse. Adults, meanwhile, can enjoy Smith and the exquisite visuals, and gauge Holland's skill in avoiding the sins of MGM's 1949 version: too much solemnity and treacle.

During *True Romance*, Christian Slater derides films that win Oscars as "safe, geriatric, coffee-table dogshit". No Oscar, then, for this noisy, vacuous fantasia on themes from a thousand thrillers, written by hot-shot Quentin Tarantino.

If Tarantino had directed with the tautness displayed in *Reservoir Dogs*, this tale of two lovers on the run with a suitcase of cocaine might have stayed manageable and sane. But he did not direct at all: that job went to Tony Scott, king of hot air and empty trappings. What should have been the size of a football now resembles a barrage balloon.

This is a pity. Tarantino's dialogue remains pleasurable; the actors and characters lined up on the road from Detroit to Hollywood have colour enough to be spotted from Mars. Take Gary Oldman's dreadlocked pimp, Christopher Walken's smiling mafioso, or Brad Pitt's Californian bum, out to lunch on drugs and television.

But *True Romance* believes that audiences only stay awake if repeatedly hit on the head. Every

scene must be supercharged; dialogue must fight with gratuitous music. The violence must be bizarre, extreme and painful to watch: it is hard to fathom how Patricia Arquette, Slater's partner, survives in one piece. After 20 minutes, I longed to escape to my own secret garden.

Even when an entry in the first British Short Film Festival is bad, you may be certain it will not last long. Shorts also have positive virtues, not least for a local industry that finds it hard to mount features. The Barbican Cinema's competitive event, running from tomorrow until October 21, includes early work by Cyril Collard, the late director of *Les Nuits Fauves*, and the Vietnamese Tran Anh Hung, whose *The Scent of Green Papaya* was a Cannes revelation this year.

Apart from their use as a springboard for talent, shorts can also embrace notions that could not survive at greater length: as in Peter Capaldi's hilarious *Franz Kafka's It's a Wonderful Life*, or Jesús Muñoz's *Obsession*, a miniature portrait of one south Londoner's devotion to radio sets and electricity.

TELEVISION REVIEW

Dancing at lunacy

In Tuesday's *EastEnders* (BBC1), the homelessurchin Mandy explained, in a darkened squat, the reason she couldn't give a toss. "I've never told anyone this," she confided, "but what I want most in the world is a candle-wick bedspread. I want a table lamp, and a fluffy thing to put my night-clothes in. But what I've got is a smelly mattress on a filthy floor in a derelict squat. That's why I couldn't give a toss."

Mandy's speech was quite a revelation. But compared with last night's *Safe* (BBC2), a brilliant scorching Screenplay about teenage homelessness written by Al Ashton and directed by Antonia Bird, it was very small beer indeed. By the end of *Safe*, not only would such a bedspread speech be utterly unnecessary, but the mere sight of a bedspread, or a fluffy nightie case – or your own front door – was easily enough to make you yowl with sudden misery for anyone who didn't have one, and never would.

Safe was concerned with two days in the lives of Kaz (Kate Hardie) and Gypo (Aidan Gillen) – two "crap days", as Kaz describes them. Instead of the grey shapeless documentary-style drama one somehow expected (given the subject), *Safe* was sharp, pacy and brilliantly structured, filmed on location, utterly realistic.

Every peripheral character made sense, every moment

had its impact, and Kaz and Gypo – with their obscure, passionate needs for different kinds of safety – tugged this 65-minute play drumskin-tight between them.

Events came in significant pairs: two bogus soliciting expeditions (one safe, one not), two deliberately started fires (one safe, one not), two blokes stabbing themselves with broken bottles (one safe, one not). At the overnight shelter from which the disruptive Gypo was banned, Kaz took two showers. During the first, she giggled; she was flaunting her body in front of Sean (George Costigan), the grim, pursed-up manager of the shelter. The second time, after a violent, traumatic rejection from her real home ("You don't exist any more, understand?" her mother shrieks), her body jerked with sobs.

"It's a cross between casualty and an acid house party," was how Sean described the night shelter – a useful description, but also a rare example of someone telling you what to think. Despite the many shocks in the play – a would-be psycho plunging a broken bottle into his own chest ("It's show time!"), Kaz having knee-trembler sex among the dustbins with an angry punter; Kaz being raped by her stepfather ("Just like old times; you be the petrol tank and I'll be the pump") – *Safe* was not shocking just for the sake of it. Each event helped one's understanding.



Kate Hardie as the streetwise street waif Kaz in *Safe*

not of the "big issue", but of Kaz and Gypo. While the brutalised Kaz placated strangers ("I really fancy it, please come on, please, please"), she reacted with revulsion to Gypo.

Both of the lead actors were superb, but it was Hardie who always wanted to watch. While Gillen conveyed Gypo's deep disturbance with a quizzical facial stillness, Hardie was wide open, volatile, blurry,

like somebody recently punched. The key scene in *Safe* came when, having been thrown out of the night shelter, the pair turned up at an empty London flat which technically belonged to Gypo. Kaz loves it, turns the heating on, dances wildly ("Let's get it mega bastard hot"), while Gypo sits sullen at the chilly open window, staring out.

LYNNE TRUSS

ROCK CONCERT

Fire and Waters

clutching his microphone stand as if it were a flagpole newly impaled in the summit of a mountain. His grunt-and-thrust tales of impatient men, compliant women and occasional shoot-outs in the Last Chance saloon, confirmed his unenviable claim to one of the worst lyrical portfolios in the business, but it was great fun to hear them all again, and say what you will, his delivery

Paul Rodgers
Forum, NW5

was unassailably cool.

The success, or in some cases otherwise, of these performances actually hinged more on Rodgers's band, a heavy-hitting trio comprising guitarist Neal Schon, formerly of Santana and Journey, bassist Todd Jensen and drummer Dean Castronovo. While Jensen and Castronovo captured the flavour, if not the essence, of Free's slow-swing-

ing rhythm section, Schon's playing, although crammed with technical superlatives, lacked the muscular economy which was the hallmark of Mick Ralphs in Bad Company or the high emotional payload delivered by the late Paul Kossoff in Free.

Simon Kirke, former drummer with both Free and Bad Company, made a guest appearance on a version of "The Hunter" and Rodgers sang a mournful version of "House Of The Rising Sun". But it was an unexpected deluge of Jimi Hendrix songs towards the end that left a more powerful impression.

DAVID SINCLAIR

From the director of 'THE DOUBLE LIFE OF VERONIQUE'

"A FINE FILM...SUPERBLY MADE"

"BINOCHÉ IS COMPULSIVELY WATCHABLE..."

"THE MOST EXCITING THING WE HAVE SEEN IN CINEMA THIS YEAR"

"AN ASTONISHING WORK..."

"SPELLBINDING"

MEDIN KEMMITS PRESENTS

JULIETTE BINOCHÉ

THREE COLOURS

BLUE

A FILM BY KRZYSZTOF KIESLOWSKI

STARTS TOMORROW

CHelsea-CINEMA

RENOIR

THEATRE: Problematic Shakespeare from the RSC; surreal Ionesco, Romanian-style; and a paranormal thriller

Forced to finish happily

Sir Peter Hall's staging of one of Shakespeare's most troublesome plays, reviewed by Jeremy Kingston

Emerging from Paul Scofield's *Timon of Athens* some years ago, an American is said to have remarked glumly to his wife: "They say it's a Shakespeare play that's hardly ever done." To which she replied, "Just our luck." Trevor Nunn recently showed what marvels could be made of that problem-play, but Sir Peter Hall has less success with this slightly earlier but more troublesome work.

He gives a mellow elegance to this story of a lovelorn girl on the make, a fairytale insufficiently turned into realism. Cavaliers gather at the French king's court; changes of scene are indicated by spotlights shifting between a high-level model of the Chateau at Rosillon and the architecture of Florence. Helena wears sober black and a crucifix around her neck when she reveals to us her love for Bertram, her guardian's son; this is transformed into a white court dress after curing His Majesty of the fistula no doctor can defeat.

Back to religious black she goes for the chase into Italy after her fleeing husband; and so to white again for her last entry, great with child, to claim her man — a touching appearance that allows us to feel with the good old Lord Latwae (Alfred Burke), "Mine eyes smell onions."

Sophie Thompson's honest demeanour at the start of the play stands the character of Helena in good stead. Arms held modestly to her sides, she turns her head naturally to left and right, including us all in her feelings. She is demure, almost gawky; her wide-set

eyes are transparent to her emotions. The candid replies to the Countess (a magisterial Barbara Jefford), after trying in vain to be economic with the truth, are endearingly clear and eager.

But the ruses Shakespeare contrives for her to take, in order to reach wedded bliss, cannot drain our sympathy from her. The reward for healing the king is to be offered the noble of her

All's Well that Ends Well
Barbican Pit

choice. Count Bertram is memorably appalled when she picks him — and in Hall's production the young man's dismay seems only a little from shock at an abruptly terminated bachelorhood and chiefly one of distaste at her mean birth.

This scene is cleverly staged, and Richard Johnson's King argues passionately for the genuine honour of good deeds not noble blood. And yet, though Toby Stephens' Bertram is a callow youth, who will be revealed as mean and emotionally treacherous, there is no way that we can take on this fairytale plot with a simple nod and an uncomplicated agreement, like the listeners who first heard it from a Dark Age bard.

Shakespeare himself has complicated it for us by fleshing out the cardboard characters, keeping them consistent within themselves, and yet still insisting on the happy-ever-after ending. Hall allows the characters no doubts as to the future: Bertram will live, as Boccaccio's original tale puts it, "in great honour and felicity," and Stephens, thunder-struck but contrite, acts it thus.

But his turnaround does not feel right, and Helena's very devoted scheming exposes him



"Hall allows the characters no doubts as to the future": a scene from the Royal Shakespeare Company's production of *All's Well that Ends Well* at the Barbican Pit in London

to the scorn of his peers. This hardly augurs well. All's well that ends well? Not at all.

Able performances keep the attention occupied. Lavinia is Shakespeare's unfunniest clown and Anthony O'Donnell can do nothing to make his sallies endurable. At least his shape, like a dropical Mr Punch, is quaint. The speaking of the lines is generally good and the scene where Michael Siberry's Parolles, Bertram's unwisely trusted friend, is exposed as a coward takes us convincingly from comedy through distress to the famous self-knowledge of the line "Simply the thing I am shall make me live."

Here Shakespeare's attention is fully on his material, but alas his intractable plot has to go on some way yet to find its unwell end.

Future imperfect and the present tense

Through a Glass,
Darkly
Croydon Warehouse

Carmen Gomez used to be on children's television presenting *Romper Room*. In *Through a Glass, Darkly*, having passed from screen to stage, she seems to have turned more than a shade sinister. She plays Estelle, the clairvoyant in a futuristic flat with plans of cutting peoples' futures short.

Fast innocence has certainly been tarnished in Trevor Baxter's new paranormal thriller. Estelle and Donald (Thomas Wheatley) initially idealised each other, as goddess and genius respectively, but their marriage has soured. Donald now downs whisky and progresses from bullying his wife over her childlessness

to raping her. She, in return, destroys his professional confidence and torments him with questions about his relationship with Tania, their psychotherapist.

Director Ted Craig has worked with both performers before and staged Baxter's previous play *Ripping Them Off*. Disappointingly, this proves no guarantee of quality. Perhaps the show is just under-rehearsed, yet Gomez and Wheatley are hardly con-

vincing as a married couple and rattle flatly through.

Maybe characterisation is difficult because Baxter does not have an ear for naturalistic dialogue and scenes are structured incoherently. In any case, the believability of the piece is plagued by Baxter limiting himself to a cast of two but really writing for more. The marriage counselling scenes, for example, consist of Estelle and Donald repeating, for our benefit, what the invisible Tania is apparently saying.

The technical team, by contrast, is highly commendable. Composer Alan Lawrence suitably puts the wind up the audience with the atmospheric

sounds of a breathy flute and a ghostly echoing piano. Michael Pavelka meanwhile makes you feel the characters' claustrophobia with his cranky angled set. German Expressionists have been at the masonry: the roof slopes downwards and the door leans into the room.

Ugly art deco antiques clutter the place. Donald's armchair is cornered by a drinks cabinet more fit for a mausoleum than a living room. A stained glass lampshade hangs ominously just above.

The film noir look — emphasised by Douglas Kuhrt's interior lighting and shadows cast by blinds — fits the thriller genre. Indeed

Through a Glass, Darkly has many parallels with *Double Indemnity*. However, the period setting clashes with references to Julian Clary and CDs.

Still the root problem is the script. Baxter's comedy does not quite come off and conversations keep lapsing into flurries of jargon words from psychiatry or philosophy or biology (motor action, molecular energy, existentialism). The author is off-loading too many underdeveloped, unimagined ideas — from Alzheimers to Zen, embracing racism, riots and revolution on the way — without regard to character, plot or clarity.

KATE BASSETT

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A few notes short of an aria



Gilding the silly: Andrea Spolarics and Ferenc Boer in *The Bald Prima Donna*

The Bald
Prima Donna
Lyric, Hammersmith

According to the stage directions, Ionesco's nonsensical comedy is set in a middle-class English interior, where "English Mr Smith wears English slippers, smokes an English pipe, reads an English newspaper, beside an English fire". Nearby, "typically English Mrs Smith is darning English socks in a long English silence".

When the play was first performed, in Paris in 1950, the director took this as an invitation wildly to spoof the characters and their setting, only to change his mind when it became clear that the effect would be satirical overkill. With Ionesco's approval, the "English interior" became a conventional drawing-room, and the actors spoke their silliest lines with Anglo-Saxon decorum.

That is not the way Gabor Tompa and his Romanian-Hungarian cast see *The Bald Prima Donna*. The lights go up on shelves packed with china dolls. The shelves rise to reveal a stark white playroom with revolving doors at the rear. A harlequin in pale blue dances to a music box. Then out of a toy-chest clambers Mrs Smith dressed in a yellow, beribboned number that would have looked antique in Jane Austen's day. She twitters away at Mr Smith, who sits reading an American newspaper; and the play is under way.

What's going on? Why this gilding of the silly? Well, it would be wrong to expect a sedately traditional approach from a company that hies from Romanian Transylvania and somewhat dauntingly calls itself the Hungarian Theatre of Cluj. For them, Ionesco is not just a pioneer of the once-fashionable genre, but a fellow-countryman forced into exile and banned by the communists. He has a posthumous task, and it is to voice the nightmarish insecurity which haunts the Romanian psyche even four years after Ceausescu, or so the programme suggests.

But is *The Bald Prima Donna* the play to accomplish that? Ionesco wrote it after reading a French-English phrasebook which taught him to say that there were seven days in a week and that ceilings were higher than floors. In come the Smiths, followed by the equally drear Martins, to exchange many such banalities. They get excited by things that don't matter, swap unfunny jokes and meaningless anecdotes, and generally show themselves out of touch with feeling, lan-

guage, reality and each other. As their names emphasise, they are meant to represent the everyday lunacy of the bourgeoisie, not the peculiar zaniness of those struggling to survive a corrupt Marxism.

Be that as it may, Tompa piles on the dotiness, converting the Martins into tweed-swathed Scots who frantically mime sex during their furniture exchange. He dresses the maid in drag, complete with moustache and military cap, and gives Ionesco's oddest intruder, a fire chief in search of a fire, more than comic significance. The others seem perpetually to be shrinking from or cringing at him, scared of a man who wants to see the old city burnt down.

Finally of the mad Ceausescu, maybe? That seems a bit forced. So does the meaning that Tompa apparently attaches to his ending, when the entire play is rapidly mimed backwards in what the programme suggests is a demonstration of the malign games that can be played with history. Still, the cast's energy remains undimmed and, despite first-night problems with surtitles, so does Ionesco's verbal humour. That makes the production worth catching as it proceeds, via Derry, Glasgow, Leeds and Oxford, back to downtown Cluj.

BENEDICT
NIGHTINGALE

CONCERT: A Berlioz rediscovery receives its British premiere

Whenever a long lost but youthful work by a great composer is discovered, the temptation is always for it to be hailed for what it usually is not. In the case of Berlioz's *Messe Solennelle*, the hype surrounding its discovery last year by a schoolteacher, Frans Moors, in an Antwerp organ gallery and this subsequent televised resurrection given by the Orchestre Révolutionnaire et Romantique and the Montecarlo Choir under John Eliot Gardiner, was for once amply justified.

Last Tuesday we witnessed a piece that did much more than simply provide the source of Berlioz's mature style and of many specific ideas found later — in the *Symphonie Fantastique*, the *Te Deum*, the *Requiem* and *Benvenuto Cellini*. Like Mozart, though without the same infant training to back him up, Berlioz proves himself with this confident and original work to have been a master even at 20, which begs the question of why he threw the piece away (he claimed to have burnt it) in the first place. It might well have been no more than that classic paradox: accomplished artifact, insecure creator.

Awkward moments were to be expected, since this was the first work of any scale that the composer himself actually heard performed, but they did not come until the very last of

Mass of good ideas

the 14 movements, the customary "Domine salvum" sung in praise of Napoleon, which sounded uncomfortably reminiscent of the spiritual integrity of what had gone before. Meanwhile, negotiating with ease such extremes as the austerity of the opening *Kyrie* and the full-throated, brassy splendour



John Eliot Gardiner: an apposite sense of occasion

and terror of the announcing of the Last Judgment in the *Credo*. Berlioz already shows the natural freedom and diversity we know from his later manner.

Delicate orchestration in the gentle "Et incarnatus est", the serene "O salutaris hostia" (with three solo sopranos) and the beautifully touching Agnus Dei, whose music was recycled in the *Te Deum* a quarter of a century afterwards, testify that Berlioz was already blessed with the surest as well as the most imaginative of inner ears.

All this Gardiner and his team, aided by the excellent contributions of the three solo singers, Donna Brown, Jean-Luc Viala and Gilles Cachemaille, gave with an apposite sense of occasion and with genuine affection. Youthful inventiveness was cleverly balanced before the interval with the last rousic of substance that Verdi wrote, the *Four Sacred Pieces* (not televised, but to be broadcast with the Mass on Radio 3 this Sunday). Ripe harmonies and a wondrous sense of spirituality saturate these moving pieces. In their performance Gardiner and his choir relished such qualities, exploiting the ambience of this vast, dark cathedral to the full. Perhaps there is no better place to hear such music.

STEPHEN PETTITT

Prize puts first things first

WHO are the best new novelists? According to the Whitbread Award judges, who have released their "best first novels of 1993" shortlist, they are Nadeem Aslam for *Season of the Rainbirds*; Rachel Cusk for *Saving Agnes*; and Tim Pears for *In the Place of Fallen Leaves*.

Aslam's novel, set in a small town in Pakistan, starts with the mysterious reappearance of a sack of letters lost in a train crash 19 years ago. Aslam is 25 and already at work on his second novel. Agnes Day, the heroine in Cusk's *Saving Agnes*, is a middle-class inarticulate romantic in need of a basic education in life. Cusk was born in 1967. Tim Pears, producing his first novel at the age of 38, sets

ARTS BRIEFING

his story in the summer of 1984. Against a background of record unemployment, striking teachers and miners, Aslam is growing up in a small Devon village.

The final winner will be announced on November 8.

MEANWHILE, another shortlist continues to add greatly to the galaxy of nations. Tate, the imaginatively named new magazine of the Tate Gallery, plunges into the debate over the shortlist for this November's Turner Prize

(four artists who take a very elastic view of art) by running an article this month entitled "Would Turner have won the Turner Prize?" The bottom line, according to the writer, Brian Allen, is no. Had the competition been held 200 years ago, it would have been called the Reynolds Prize. (Sir Joshua had died the previous year), and most likely have been won by the rising young star Thomas Lawrence.

The winner of the real Turner Prize — chosen from Rachel Whiteread, Sean Scully, Vong Phaophanit and Hannah Collins — will be announced in a live Channel 4 broadcast on November 23. The work of all four artists is to be exhibited at the Tate from November 3.

Even after 1933, Berlin saw vulgarity and greatness live side by side, recalls Stephen Spender

When life was a cabaret

BETWEEN November 1919 and September 1933 many of this century's most sensational events in politics, the arts, theatre, cinema, and night life, took place in Berlin. Post-war Berlin was cosmopolitan, being flooded with refugees from Russia and from Poland. Yet it retained its character of a certain coarse humourous openness which was that of the Berliners. Until 1933 they made their city an agora of crude dialogue, even through the years of Nazi rule.

Anton Gill's immensely informative and readable book — part political, mostly social and cultural — begins with November 1918 when "crowds of workers who had started a revolution outside Berlin were descending on the city". The social democrats (SDP) saved Berlin from communist revolution when they declared a German Republic, of which their leader Friedrich Ebert was to become the first president. However, in the early days of the republic they called upon the still surviving imperial army to save the republic from revolution. They succeeded in this but, as Gill points out, Ebert's deal with General Groener "lamed the Republic at birth".

The post-war situation of stark revolution and stark reaction produced among artists and writers of that time a confrontation of extreme positions far more stimulating than the set lines of ideologies which became the politicalisation of art in the thirties. Members of the Dadaist movement left Zurich for Berlin in 1919 and declared it "The Dadaist Headquarters of World Revolution".

Berlin also became a centre of political cabaret (inexpensive enough to continue through the period of inflation) and a place where wonderful movies such as *The Cabinet of Doctor Caligari* were produced on miraculously low budgets. There was an inflow of Russian cinema, ballet and art.

By the mid-twenties, with directors such as Max Reinhardt, Erwin Piscator and Bertolt Brecht, Berlin had the most exciting theatre in Europe. And there

was also music with conductors like Furtwängler and Klemperer, the operas of Kurt Weill, and, greatest of all, there was Alban Berg's *Wozzeck*. Gill gives us a vivid account of the fist fights which occurred in the state opera at the first performance of that masterpiece. And, of course, there is Berlin's gloriously decadent night life, and, more esoterically perhaps, descriptions of the six-day cycle races and of Berlin's numerous part-politised and part-criminal clubs.

What prevented the Weimar Republic ever having much chance of survival was the Treaty of Versailles, imposed by France and Britain with the intention of preventing Germany from ever being in a position to start another war. In fact, it

A DANCE BETWEEN FLAMES
Berlin between the Wars
By Anton Gill
John Murray, £19.99

had the opposite effect, of presenting the republic's nationalist opponents with a patriotic cause to set up against those democratic political leaders like Stresemann and Rathenau who, in order to govern Germany, were obliged to cooperate with the French and English under the treaty's conditions.

After a time, the treaty became unworkable. This was partly because the Germany of economic disaster and the inflation could not pay reparations and partly because England and France were hardly ever in step regarding the measures to be taken to enforce it. When Lloyd George was reconciliatory, Poincaré was uncompromising.

Many people think that the Treaty of Versailles made the second world war

inevitable. I rather doubt this. Between 1923 and 1929, thanks to massive American investment in Germany, there began to emerge the pacifist, internationalist new Germany — "new styles of architecture, a change of heart" — of a young generation. What caused this hopeful Weimar Republic to collapse was the 1929 Wall Street crash, producing vast numbers of unemployed and ruining many of those middle-class Germans who had recovered from the 1923 inflation for a second time.

Today when there is anxiety about a reunited Germany, it is important to be clear about the circumstances in which the Nazis came to power. Hitler, as Gill points out, made great advances among the electorate in the 1932 presidential election, but in the Reichstag election in November 1932, the Nazi vote actually dropped by two million. A majority of Germans never voted the Nazis into

power within the conditions of a free and truly democratic election.

Gill fills in the political history of Berlin between the wars with brilliantly evocative passages describing the cultural scene in theatre, opera, cinema, architecture, cafés and clubs. He sketches the characters of scientists, writers, film stars, actors and actresses, conductors, composers, painters and businessmen — among them terrible crooks — where real vulgarity somehow lived on equal terms with real greatness and where the really gifted and the merely pretentious all seemed to meet at the Romanisches Café. He quotes Walter Benjamin: "Berlin was the most important city in the world in those days," and shows how Benjamin himself like many other men of genius belonged entirely to the Berlin world.

I wondered why nothing to parallel such a near-renaissance of the modern had happened in Berlin since 1945, despite vast investments from abroad. The question, alas, provides its own answer — the Holocaust. It was to a great extent the German Jews who gave post-1918 Berlin its greatness.

Through the pain barrier

It gets so cold in Antarctica that a dropped steel bar can shatter into pieces. Crevasses as big as St Paul's Cathedral lie concealed beneath a thin crust of snow. The blue light blinds and the winds make some travellers go mad. Human flesh freezes at its extremities, then slowly rots with exquisite painfulness.

The suffering has always been awful — for Finnes and Stroud as much as for Scott and Oates. Maybe that is why images of pus, blood and faeces linger in the mind more readily after reading these two books than any scenes of icy grandeur.

But necessary suffering in the cause of primal challenge is not the end of the story. Ranulph Finnes includes in his book a strange photograph of himself after an earlier Arctic expedition: he stands naked, scared and emaciated, hand barely covering his genitals, face drawn and eyes downcast. It is the face of 15th-century Italy, not 20th-century Britain: a Sebastian, fulfilled in saintly self-abnegation.

You have to be a particular kind of person to drag a sledge weighing a fifth of a ton 1,350 miles across Antarctica. Immense courage is required to stumble over rutted ice on a raw and bleeding foot (Finnes) or on a broken ankle (Stroud), mile after mile, for more than three months without a break. The steady decay of their bodies intrudes into every minute of the expedition, as in this Finnes diary entry, for instance: "Mike cooked excellent spaghetti. His willy is frostbitten and blistered."

Finnes used to annoy Stroud as they ate from the communal pot because his lips would bleed into their food. He also lanced his own pus-filled toe with his penknife as Stroud the expedition doctor slept beside him, lance within reach. No, this psychological world of suffering relished is far stranger than the landscape of iceflows and glaciers they staggered through.

Stroud and Finnes accuse each other of misrepresenting the truth in their accounts of the expedition. Finnes seems to despise Stroud:

Stroud both hates and desperately admires Finnes. Their relationship is twisted around a stew of conflicts — class, age and stature. The baronet's blood dictates that he shall be leader of his race, but he is nearly 50 and the young man's body is not breaking down like his. He is tall, Stroud is small, and each is aware of this, minute by agonising minute. Stroud will not be led, but secretly yearns for approval from his caste-better.

Here is England in miniature: a ruined aristocracy clinging to power while the upstart middle class cannot shake itself free from its reverence for baronets. As in their previous expeditions, the pair are humiliated by that raffish foreigner Erling Kagge who skis past them solo to the Pole.

Stroud and Finnes profess affection for each other. Yet Finnes reproduces a rather uncomplimentary psychological report prepared on Stroud by an American psychologist from an earlier expedition, and further regrets selecting Stroud because: "Yorkshiremen... are dour and nurse grievances."

Stroud on the other hand writes that "it made him spit" when Finnes allegedly misrepresented the truth by claiming that Stroud wanted to stop the expedition early on because of diarrhoea, and that Finnes had to "exert his leadership" to get him to continue. And their accounts of how the expedition intrudes into every minute of the expedition, as in this Finnes diary entry, for instance: "Mike cooked excellent spaghetti. His willy is frostbitten and blistered."

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Ian Robertson

MIND OVER MATTER
The epic crossing of the Antarctic Continent
By Ranulph Finnes
Sinclair-Stevenson, £16.99

SHADOWS ON THE WASTELAND
By Mike Stroud
Cape, £14.99



Sir Ranulph Finnes in Antarctica: what does it take to haul yourself across ice on a bleeding foot for more than three months?

Long live Fleet Street's jester

Daniel Johnson

TRICKS OF MEMORY
An Autobiography
By Peregrine Worsthorne
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, £18.99

absent from his weekly bombast.

It is a humility that was rarely apparent in his youth. Worsthorne was bullied at school, bisexual at Cambridge, bewildered at Oxford and bilked in Chelsea. He exploited his power as an officer in the ruins of Hamburg to seduce a baroness, wrecking her marriage; he helps his future wife Claudie to obtain an illegal abortion, and she nearly dies; he has an affair with an American, is surprised when she follows him to London, then finds himself interrogated in her flat by the vice squad, who have been called in by the neighbours. That last anecdote recalls the sheer nastiness of 1950s Britain, a lace-curtain-twitching society compared to which New York and Washington (where Worsthorne was sent by *The Times*) must have seemed liberal in the best sense of the word. America was the making of

Worsthorne. It was there that he discovered his great strength: swimming against the tide. In smart Washington society, especially before 1952, this meant being pro-Republican, anti-communist and — with reservations — even pro-McCarthy. He befriended the American right long before it became fashionable. Yet what he liked about America were things that some of his conservative friends on both sides of the Atlantic might have disliked: sexual freedom; convenience foods without servants; liberated women.

Worsthorne's other great benefactor was *The Times*. Though he professes to regard its socratic post-war manifestation as the *beau idéal* of a newspaper, *The Times* as it was in the 1940s bore no similarity of any kind to *The Sunday Telegraph* under Worsthorne's editorship. Worsthorne championed his own brand of conservatism (a concoction of reaction and Marxism) throughout a period when to do so was to run the gauntlet of social opprobrium. He does himself an injustice in seeing his own political thought as wholly derivative: the *hommes sérieux* whom he has

always idealised, such as Michael Oakeshott and Maurice Cowling, probably learnt as much from Worsthorne as the other way round. But his impact on public opinion was weakened by what he calls his "indiscretions", such as using a four-letter word on television. His frivolousness helped to make him acceptable in unlikely

quarters. It also convinced his proprietor, Lord Hartwell, that he could never be an editor.

Having spent 25 years championing the bit as a columnist, Worsthorne was given his chance to edit *The Sunday Telegraph* after Conrad Black bought Hartwell out. The result was a wild and wonderful confection, of which Worsthorne

was chief leader-writer, elemental spirit, jester and host. Whether he understood what editorship requires is another matter. When he lectured his rival, Andrew Neil, about conduct unbecoming to an editor, he ended up in court and found his own skeletons exposed for unflattering public scrutiny. He knows this was folly, but also that he would do the same thing again.

For three years he presided over this non-stop party, and the most entertaining Sunday newspaper in town almost as a by-product. Then he was sacked by Andrew Knight over a breakfast of poached eggs. Thereafter his control was reduced to four comment pages, written by a group known as "Worsthorne College". His knighthood sweetened the blow of Mrs Thatcher's fall, but he lost interest in politics and retired in 1991.

Worsthorne's self-indulgent ordinariness, which has supplied the gaps in his memory with generous doses of imagination, ceases abruptly with his remarriage to Lady Lucy Lambton in 1991, after the death in short order of Claudie and his mother. Though inseparable from its author's idiosyncratic life, this autobiography stands in its own right as a record — perhaps the best we shall ever have — of a Fleet Street that is gone for ever, and of a lord of misrule whose memory will be inseparable from its history.



Sir Peregrine brought glamour to the role of political columnist

Myths laid to rest

Who are the Greeks? Here are two books that try to answer the question, first ancient and then modern. One old answer is that they are honorary Englishmen, the founders of our democracy, our literature, our arts, our laws and our philosophy. This identification of Britons with Greeks was widely made by the Victorians, and it is still taken piously for granted today.

The fact that it is schoolboy nonsense is shown by these two books. In the first, the Reader in Greek history at Cambridge examines the image that the classical

Philip Howard

THE GREEKS
By Paul Cartledge
Oxford University Press, £30

THE GREEKS
By James Pettifer
Viking, £16.99

Greeks had of themselves, and demonstrates how different, how very different, it was from our own ways of thinking and acting.

Using their own supposedly objective historians, he shows how the Greeks defined themselves by polar opposition to a whole series of outsiders. These others were non-Greeks, women, non citizens, slaves and gods.

Liberty was reserved for the hands of a small élite of about 30,000 adult male citizens. The rest of the population, about eight times as numerous, and consisting of women, foreigners, and slaves, were outsiders and lesser breeds without the law. In spite of his enormous cultural achievements, your ancient Greek was a xenophobe, male chauvinist, superstitious and not very English creature. Cartledge's anthropological insistence on the polarities of the ancient Greek image can become mechanical. But his book is a useful antidote to British sentimentality about ancient Greece. Pierce Greek elitism and exclusion of outsiders were the soil in which their great cultural achievement grew.

For the country that invented democracy, Greece has difficulty in making it work in the modern industrialised world. James Pettifer's survey of Greece since the war begins with the war period and the subsequent civil war. He believes that whatever legitimate motive the British forces may have had in attempting to enforce order in the chaos of Athens in 1945, the reality to many Greeks was that they were protecting collaborators and fascists from popular justice, and attempting to determine the political future of their country.

The middle section of the book deals with social issues from tourism to the old language. Finally there is a short section dealing with Greek neighbours and minorities, such as Albanians and the Macedonian question.

The twin sides of the Greek national and personal character have always co-existed: the westward looking rationalist side — the thinking that gave rise to philosophy and mathematics as peculiarly Greek creations — and the mystical eastern side, which finds its roots in Byzantium and Orthodoxy. Pettifer concludes that a likely destiny for Greece is to be a Balkan superpower, not a European country, at least in the sense of being part of a potential federal Europe.

In Woodrow Wyatt's review of *The Major Enigma* by Penny Junor last Thursday, Charles Grenville's name appeared incorrectly as Charles Grenville.

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'It would be a mistake to squander resources on window dressing which makes the situation worse'

Woolf attacks crime strategy

Lord Woolf spoke out this week against planned changes in the criminal justice system. The following is the edited text of his address to the New Assembly of Churches in London

I have reservations, very real reservations, as to my ability to say anything which is of value about crime, punishment and rehabilitation. I do have a "record" (or is the word "form") so far as prisons are concerned, but since I finished my report over two years ago I have been trying to go straight and keep out of prison, but only with limited success.

I have to admit that I have recently been identified at the opening of new prisons, new wings of prisons and visitors' facilities. I wish it had instead been at the closure, because of lack of demand, of an existing penal establishment. It is, however, because of my increasing concern at what, recently, I have heard and observed, as an onlooker, that I have chosen today of my own volition to return primarily to the prison scene in this talk.

Even when not in prison unlike many of my judicial colleagues, I have not recently been heavily involved in crime. Very few criminal cases come to the Lords. A very long time ago when I started at the Bar I earned my living as a result of crime with mixed success. I am referring to over 30 years ago when things, so far as the criminal scene is concerned, were so much more amateurish than they are today on both sides of the bench. It's hard to believe that what are now the Crown Courts and were then Borough and County Quarter Sessions were mainly presided over by part-time judges.

Punishment, no matter what the record of the accused, must be proportionate to the offence which was committed. It was because the unit fine, as it was implemented by most benches, could produce results which were totally out of accord with that principle that led to the decision that they had to go. However, the philosophy behind that short-lived punishment was, I believe, well founded. It was that a fine should bear a relationship to the means of the offender.

The same is true of the other innovation of the Criminal Justice Act which was to be so quickly repealed. Nonsenses did occur as the result of the inability of a judge to pay proper regard to an offender's record. There was, however, again a very sensible principle behind the approach of limiting the attention which a judge should attach to the offender's record. That principle was that if a person has been convicted and punished for an offence it is wrong for him to be reprimanded for the same offence if he is subsequently convicted of another offence.

There was, therefore, as with much else in the Criminal Justice Act, an enlightened approach reflected in these two provisions even though they attracted so much

ridicule because they were too inflexible in practice. They were supportive of what I will suggest should be the fundamental rule of sentencing, namely only send someone to prison if there is no appropriate alternative and then impose the shortest justifiable sentence. I for one therefore regret that before they were killed off there was no attempt made to try to give them a useful life by amendment.

The public at large is undoubtedly deeply concerned about what has been happening to the criminal justice system. There have been the miscarriages of justice; there have been some quite sensational horrific crimes, though if you examined the newspapers 100 or 50 years ago you could no doubt find

examples of equally horrific offences. People feel vulnerable and in need of protection. Some of the victims of crime have, not without justification, suggested that too little attention is being paid to what they have suffered and too much attention is being paid to the interests of those who were responsible for what happened to them. I understand and sympathise with those complaints. It is, however, important that we do not over-react and instead of making the situation better, make it worse. Above all it would be a terrible mistake to squander resources on short-term palliatives, window dressing, which instead of making the situation better would make it worse.

For the majority of the two and a half years since the Woolf Report was accepted by the then home secretary, I have been pleased about the progress which has been made. I do believe the Home Office and those who worked in prisons were engaged in a process which would result in prison ceasing to be a wholly negative experience for the vast majority of those who were sent to prison.

The co-ordinating committees at a national and local level were set up and are running. So the left hand of the criminal justice system should know what the right hand was doing. There is now the visible leadership from the new director

general of the Prison Service for which I was looking. There is also the structured stand-off from ministers which I felt was needed, and this has now assisted by giving the Prison Service agency status. There was more delegation of responsibility to governors; there are improved standards of justice within the prison system.

The government brought out an admirable white paper headed *Custody, Care and Justice*, which made the very important point that imprisonment is/should be a very expensive way of making criminals worse. Prison governors invited me to visit their prisons so that I could see the way in which they were putting into effect what had been recommended by Judge Tumim and myself in our report.

Community prisons in some areas were becoming a reality. Integral sanitation was happening and I at any rate felt that the Prison Service, while there was still much to do, had a new sense of purpose and direction. It was confident it would soon be able to play its proper role in society. This was not to say that prisons were not still austere. They certainly were not holiday camps, but we were getting away from the situation where too many were an appalling reflection on this country.

There are now many areas of excellence within the prison system. I have the privilege of being chairman of the Butler trust. The Butler trust works by giving awards for excellence within the Prison Service and then trying after the excellence has been identified to ensure that the example set in one prison is followed in others.

I am glad to say that this year we have had more nominations than ever before and you just have to glance at those nominations to appreciate the range of initiatives which are taking place which are a great testimonial for the quality of many of those who work within the Prison Service. We owe it to them to try to prevent a situation arising where their excellent work is undone.

That these changes should have taken place was important for the prisoners who were serving their sentences. The changes were also important to the staff who work in the prisons and, I believe, important for the country. As I wrote in our report:

"The Prison Service has to live with prisoners during their time in prison. The rest of the country lives with them afterwards. We cannot afford to lock them up and forget them. We must ensure that the service makes proper use of the time which a prisoner spends in prison and the best use of the money available for keeping him or her there. The aim must be to reduce the likelihood of prisoners reoffending after their release."

Those remarks were primarily directed to the Prison Service but they are relevant to the whole of the criminal justice system.

It is the heavy responsibility of that system to ensure that it deploys the huge resources which are made available to it in the most effective manner possible. Of course, there are limits to what can be achieved because it is not open to the criminal justice system to tackle the flaws in the social and educational systems. However, something is now being achieved and much more could be achieved within the criminal justice system if the Prison Service has the resources and the opportunity to build on what has already been done.

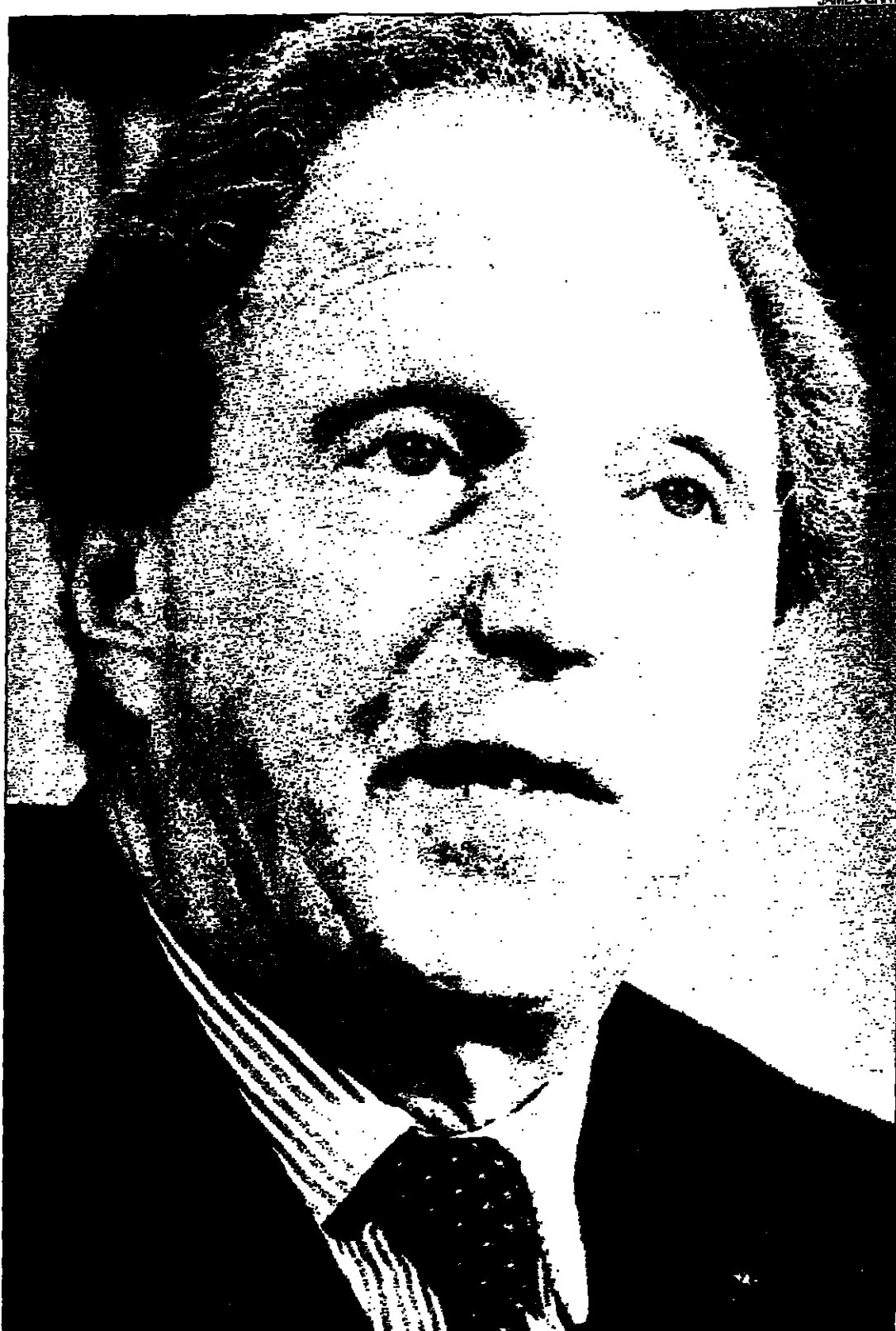
It must, however, be remembered that prison is an extremely expensive resource and action to redress offending behaviour can usually be more effectively and certainly more cheaply executed in the community.

Now costs on average £430 a week to keep someone in prison. Just pause for a moment and speculate what some victims of crime could do with £22,000 a year or thereabouts, which is the cost of keeping his or her assailant locked up in prison.

Remember that eventually that prisoner is going to come out of prison and the question then will be: is he more or less likely to commit a further crime?

Bear in mind that the prisoner hopefully has family ties and that those ties are inevitably going to be damaged by the fact of imprisonment. A broken family may result with the consequent dangers to the children of that family: that prison may be creating the situation in which the children will grow up to commit the sins of their parents. If the prisoner was finding it difficult to stay in employment before he went to prison he is going to find it even more difficult when he comes out.

I remind you of these consequences of imprisonment not because I have any belief that we can reduce our prison population substantially at the present time and in the present climate but because it is critical that we limit the increase in that population. Statements are being made that



Lord Woolf condemns as a waste of resources the policy of sending more people to prison

having tried the soft option and having failed now is the time to get tough on crime. Such talk is short-sighted and irresponsible.

The easy option, which has a miserable record of failure, is to send more and more people to prison regardless of the consequences including the shocking waste of resources which could be spent elsewhere. The difficult option is to try to identify the underlying causes of criminal conduct and then to set about tackling those causes.

The present environment has already resulted in the prison population rising every month this year at an alarming rate of 500 a month — which distinguishes 1993 from any of the last five years. The pressures on the prison system, particularly in the North, are now acute. Those pressures are only being met by moving prisoners against their will, sometimes by using force, away from their home areas in the North to the Midlands and the South.

The present projections of the prison population, not taking into account new initiatives which will increase that figure, is that by March 1994 it could reach 49,000, by March 1995 51,000, by the end of the century it is now expected to reach 55,700. By July 1994 the population will exceed the capacity of the prison estate.

If I learnt anything at all in consequence of the year I served in examining the prison situation after Strangeways, it was that overcrowding is the most corrosive influence on the prison system.

Resources are diverted to the least constructive use. Valuable and constructive programmes for tackling offending go by the board. It is only if a prisoner's experience in prison is constructive that there is any real prospect of a prisoner being less likely to reoffend when he leaves prison than when he entered.

It was for this reason that the 1990 white paper which preceded the Criminal Justice Act indicated that for non-violent crimes punishment in the community "is likely to be better for the victim, the public and the offender, than a custodial sentence".

An overcrowded prison is also an unstable prison. A positive regime provides security for staff and prisoners. When overcrowding is present it is the regimes which contribute to preventing reoffending which suffer first. If you have to move prisoners purely for logistic reasons and those moves mean they are separated from their families, naturally they become disgruntled.

Brendan O'Real, who was governor of Strangeways at the time of the riots, refused promotion and instead became governor of Risley. Under his leadership "Grisley Risley" — as it used to be known — has become one of the more forward-thinking and enlightened prison establishments, moving to

wards performing the community role which is the most effective way in which a prison can operate.

At Risley there is now a vigorous programme under which sex offenders are required to face up to their sex offending and programmes for tackling motor car crimes, the curse of today. At Risley they have gone a long way towards breaking down the environment of brutality whereby vulnerable prisoners who are mainly sex offenders have to be kept in a ghetto away from other prisoners.

Because of the pressures the Prison Service is already under those prisoners are going to be moved from Risley. On the radio

'Youngsters who appear to cock a snook at society, who do not care a damn, are a problem'

last week Governor O'Real was understandably complaining about the damage to a three-year programme which is of significant importance in trying to find ways in which the problem of sex offenders reoffending can be tackled.

The cost of overcrowding is that all over the country voluntary organisations, such as yours, who are doing valuable work to stop reoffending, are being starved of the funds in these times of austerity and are either closing or having their activities curtailed. Apparently, however, the resources are to be found to pay for thousands more prisoners.

Putting aside the costs of six new prisons which will be hundreds of millions of pounds, to keep 3,000 extra prisoners, which is less than the number that those prisons will hold, will be, at a conservative £22,000 a head, in excess of £66 million every year. If we can afford those prisons to replace old and run-down prisons I would be delighted. However, even with those prisons the system will be overcrowded.

A shame it is that we cannot divert some of the money which is spent on keeping prisoners in prison, not those who need to be there, but those who are there but do not really need to be there, on programmes which would help to reduce the reoffending of prisoners who are a danger to society and whose activities play a substantial part in creating the "wave of anxiety" which the public at present feel about crime.

Would it not be better to spend some of that money on crime prevention. Ensuring that cars can be immobilised and then, just as we can be fined for not protecting ourselves by wearing seat belts, so we can be fined if we do not take steps to protect our property. Spend more money on making pensioners feel more secure by fitting better locks to their homes and by requiring youngsters who are on community service to accompany them to the supermarket if they are frightened to go out alone.

I appreciate that you may say it is hardly up to you, a judge, to complain about prison overcrowding. Who sends people to prison but the judges? That is of course true, but they do so in the context which the government and Parliament sets. My concern is that that context is in the process of change and that there is a fashion not confined to the totally uninformed to indulge in rhetoric advocating increased sentences across the board in ways which will be counterproductive.

Instead of the Criminal Justice Act 1991 being made to work, the policy which it reflected is being reversed. The judges, however, must take responsibility as well. Here I include magistrates and have in mind their association's latest guidelines on sentencing, which have in respect to some offences changed the emphasis by saying that, *prima facie*, the sentence should be imprisonment instead of giving the same effect to the principle I have identified.

We are not in the same position, fortunately, as exists in the United States, where crime and the prison population are both out of control. In the States now they are sending five times as many people proportionately to prison as we are in this country, and our record in this country does not compare favourably with that in the majority of countries in Europe.

In the States the programme the cost of which is expanding fastest is federal prisons they are having to turn gymnasiums into dormitories. In New York they are using old boats to house prisoners. The cost of the Correctional Service has doubled over the last five years and could double again in the next five years.

If you are a young black in Chicago then the probabilities are that you will go to prison. Over 50 per cent of the youngsters are doing so. It is not surprising therefore that prison has lost its stigma. The reason that this is happening in part is because of legislation which ties judges' hands not only to the maximum sentence which they can impose, which is what the position is in the UK, but the minimum sentence they can impose as well. Youngsters who commit their second drug offence have to be sent to prison for substantial periods, which explains why the American prisons are overflowing.

This policy has, however, totally

failed and I was interested to read that the new administration is in the process of totally reassessing its approach to drug offending. What is being talked of is diverting part of the huge resources designed to prevent drug trafficking to a new campaign of education to prevent drug taking. It is being suggested that perhaps this is the most effective way of tackling the drug menace.

If the appetite for drugs can be stemmed, then so will the profits which make the trade in drugs such an attraction to those elements of society who are prepared to exploit their fellow citizens. Should we not at least be considering whether it would be preferable for drugs or at least some drugs to be lawfully available in controlled circumstances so that it would no longer be necessary for addicts to commit crimes to feed their addiction.

I firmly believe, as Judge Tumim has continually preached, that it is by education and training both within prison and without that the best prospect for reducing crime is to be found.

The judges in the framework provided by Parliament set the tariff in order to achieve consistency in punishment. In doing so they have the responsibility of maintaining confidence in the justice system and I appreciate that in the present climate it would be difficult to send out signals that what is required is lower sentences.

However, there is a responsibility of the judiciary in this country to keep abreast of what is happening in other parts of the world and the situation in this country can not only be compared with what has happened in the States but also with what is happening in Germany, where the judiciary took the lead in reducing sentences substantially without any apparent effect on law and order but with the consequence that instead of planning to build more prisons... they have closed prisons.

Youngsters who appear to be cocking a snook at society, who apparently do not care a damn about their offending, are a real problem. If a youngster goes into custody for two years instead of a year, prison can I suppose be said to work in the sense that while he is there he cannot commit further offences as easily as he could when he was at large.

But it does not work if when he comes out he is more likely to commit further offences than before he went in. The longer he spends out of society the more difficult it is for his reintroduction into society to be achieved. This difficult transition is one of the matters which you are seeking to alleviate. It is a further splendid initiative, but by itself it is but an example of what needs to be done.

The new prisons which are now promised will be on stream, if all goes well, within a period of five years. Other improvements are also long term. The improvements are welcome but we must ensure that we do not, by overreacting in the meantime, cram more and more people into the prison system so that the system is incapable of taking the strain and again explodes. We have already had a reminder in the disturbance which took place last month at Wymond. Although we will not know the cause until Judge Tumim's report is published. We do not want repetitions of that sort of behaviour.

The immediate response to Wymond was a call for tougher sentences within the prisons. Again this is not the real answer. The present powers of punishment would be ample and adequate if prisoners were in a position where they had more to lose and there was also satisfactory co-ordination between the Prison Service and the Crown Prosecution Service and the magistrates to ensure that prison offending of a serious nature was dealt with expeditiously and resulted in appropriate punishment.

If you are already serving a long sentence of imprisonment, a few more days or even a few more weeks of what used to be called remission for a disciplinary offence does not hurt. What does hurt is the loss of the benefits of a proper and constructive regime within the prison, in particular the facility to have satisfactory visits from your family.

The philosophy of punishing wherever possible within the community was the right one. The right one because it was the best way in which to fight crime in the long run. It does, however, require to be resourced properly. The costs will always be far less than those needed to house more and more prisoners in jails.

With additional resources it should be possible to devise the active and constructive regimes which would satisfy the public that they are not merely soft alternatives. We are indeed fortunate that we have a quality probation service which would seize the opportunity to supervise punishment in the community. We could experiment with weekend prison to avoid jobs being lost.

We must hold on to the progress which we were making and never forget that the cost of prisons to the public is heavy and only justified when there really is no alternative.

Law Report October 14 1993

Special treatment for unusual cases

Regina v Bigby

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Turner and Mr Justice Dyson

[Judgment October 11]

Guideline cases and normal tariffs of sentences were not immutable and the court occasionally had to consider an out-of-the-ordinary case calling for special treatment.

The Court of Appeal so stated on Attorney General's Reference (No 12 of 1993) when holding as not unduly lenient prison sentences totalling 18 months for offences of robbery with a handgun at a building society branch and two counts of criminal damage totalling £7,000 to vehicles, and common assault.

The sentences were passed at the Central Criminal Court by Judge Gerber on Wayne Edward Bigby, aged 30, who pleaded guilty to driving a van into a private car, both owned by his employer, whom he punched after throwing the ignition keys at him following a workplace argument. For the criminal damage offences he received six months each and three months for the assault all concurrent on plea of guilty. On conviction of robbery at a branch of the Woolwich Building Society in Walthamstow, he received 18 months concurrent.

Mr David Paget for the Attorney General; Mr Peter Rowlands, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for the offender.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that early on the morning after the incidents at the building society the offender gave himself up at the police station. He confessed to the robbery but refused to help about recovering what he insisted was not a real gun. He asked to see a doctor and that was arranged. He admitted the damage and the assault.

At trial the case was contested, the offender's argument was that he was in an abnormal state of mind when he committed the robbery because of what had taken place the previous day. He had been severely depressed at the loss of his employment, saw no future for himself and had contemplated suicide. He robbed the building society very much on the spur of the moment, did not intend to rob it and had no intention of keeping the money, which he had given to the poor.

In passing sentence the judge stated

that the tariff was six years for the offence on a building society or small shop, that he would not penalise the offender for contesting the case because he had simply not been able to bring himself to do so, the unusual facts and that the sentence would be reduced in the light of mitigating circumstances, which the judge rehearsed.

On balancing the factors of aggravation and mitigation, the Attorney General submitted that 18 months imprisonment for robbery with a concurrent sentence of six months for having an imitation firearm with intent was an unduly lenient sentence and the court ought to increase it.

No other cases had been cited because the reference had been conducted on the basis that the judge's statement of what was normal for such an offence was correct.

However, guideline cases and normal tariffs were not immutable, and it fell to the court occasionally to consider a case which was out of the ordinary and called for special treatment.

Mr Rowlands submitted that this was such a case and that the judge was justified if he was not prepared to go even further and make a probation order with a condition of treatment.

His Lordship said that this was not a case in which there was a trumped-up plea of being depressed. It was clear that the offender had a history of problems regarding depression.

Their Lordships were clearly of the view that a sentence of 18 months in the ordinary way for an offence of going into a building society with a gun and holding up the staff and making off with money would be wholly inadequate.

However, the judge clearly was of the opinion that it was not a mainstream example of a building society robbery but a very unusual case of an man of low intelligence in a state of depression who committed the offence without making any sort of preparation by way of disguising himself and immediately afterwards went to the police and admitted what he had done.

Bearing all those matters in mind their Lordships considered that the sentence was lenient but not unduly lenient. Their Lordships were not suggesting a new tariff for this offence.

The case was exceptional and, accordingly, their Lordships would not interfere with the sentence imposed by the judge.

Solicitors: CPS, Headquarters.

سكينة الاميل

Price leads chase for rich pickings in Dunhill Cup

By John Hopkins, Golf Correspondent

GOLF'S golden autumn starts this morning when the Alfred Dunhill Cup, involving 16 three-man teams from many of the world's leading golfing nations, gets under way at St Andrews. One week today, the second leg of the autumn double, the world match play championship begins at Wentworth.

Enthusiasts could ask for little more than two weeks of matchplay at two of the most distinguished courses in golf — the Old Course at St Andrews and the Burnie Road at Wentworth.

The tournaments are the products of the fertile mind of Mark McCormack and his organisation, the International Management Group (IMG). One is reluctant to praise McCormack and IMG too highly because they have such a strong hold on the world of golf. Moreover, the Dunhill Cup was an attempt to kill off the faltering World Cup, an aim at which they have failed.

Nevertheless, IMG has arranged two fine tournaments in succession at a time when professional golf in Britain has all but ended for the year. These events represent the last chance to watch the best professionals competing here until next spring and consequently large crowds will be attracted to both venues.

The Alfred Dunhill Cup has a medal matchplay format. The players go out in pairs and compete against one another at strokeplay. The 16 teams play a round-robin format in four groups for the first three days, with the winners of each group competing in the semi-finals on Sunday morning.

Zimbabwe are the top seeds, which is not as surprising as it sounds considering they are represented by Nick Price, the 1992 US PGA champion, Mark McNulty, who is ranked No 19 in the world,

and Tony Johnstone, the 1992 Volvo PGA champion.

"Do you understand how this competition works?" McNulty was asked just before he went out to play in the pro-am tournament yesterday. "No," he replied with a grin. "All I know is it's one hundred grand to the winner. Is that understanding?"

Australia, the second seeds, are made up of Rodger Davis (26th), Craig Parry (29th) and Peter Senior (25th). Colin Montgomerie, Gordon Brand and Sam Torrance will line up for Scotland as the

as the sun came up this morning. It was brilliant. You get a real buzz being here." Not even the fierce northerly wind that rapped the face and made large, white-capped waves crash angrily on the beach could diminish the sense of excitement that always exists on the eve of a tournament at St Andrews. There were many more birds on the university playing fields than there were in the air and everywhere were pond-sized floods, testimony to the heavy rain Scotland has been experiencing.

All in all, it must have looked very odd to Daly on his first visit to St Andrews when, together with eight pieces of luggage, he checked in to his hotel yesterday morning after an overnight flight from the heat of Orlando, Florida. Unshaven, tired and arriving at the home of golf he claimed not to be at home with his own game. "I have been concentrating on so many other things in my life that golf has not been No 1. I'm hitting it sideways," he said.

Not long after, and certainly without making a visit to the practice ground, he hit his Killer Whale driver on the most famous tee in golf and sent his ball spinning into the Swilcan Burn, a blow of at least 300 yards. At least Daly knew it was there, which is more than can be said of Couples, his team-mate, on his first appearance on the Old Course.

Couples claimed not to know about the centuries-old waterway that crosses the 1st and 18th fairways and acts as a magnet for so many approach shots on this 370-yard hole. But then what else would you expect from the man who cracked one of the better jokes in golf when he said he never answers the telephone "because there might be someone on the other end?"

thirteenth, with Fred Couples, Payne Stewart and John Daly, playing for the United States, seeded sixth. Their seeding is accounted for largely by Daly's comparatively low position in the world rankings of 89th.

The pleasure of St Andrews, the city where every second shop is associated with golf, never fades. "It really is an amazing place," Nick Faldo, who won his second Open Championship here in 1990, said. "I was out on the balcony of my hotel room looking out

and Tony Johnstone, the 1992 Volvo PGA champion.

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Irish invaders toast triumph

By Mel Webb

A LONG journey by road and sea proved worthwhile for four intrepid invaders from Northern Ireland, who came to Haggis Castle, near Glasgow, yesterday and defeated the waiting Scottish hordes in the Scotland and Ireland regional final of The Times Olivetti Corporate Golf Challenge.

The winning team, from the Northern Ireland Civil Services Sports Association, were the narrowest of victors in this, the fifth and last regional final. They tied on 86 points with AOC International Ltd, and even on the countback of the last nine holes only one point — 44 points to 43 — separated them.

There was a gap of only 16 points between the leading 14 teams on a bright, chilly day on which the scheduled start of play was delayed by an hour because of heavy frost.



The triumphant team, who with their victory claimed an all-expenses-paid trip to the national final at the Hyatt La Manga Club Resort in south-west Spain from November 25-29, made their way to Glasgow by road to Larne, across to Cairnryan by ferry and then had another 105-mile car ride before reaching the golf course.

Their practice regime was a rigorous one and showed how serious they were in their attempt to win the competition. They played 18 Glasgow watering holes the night before, made sure they were in bed before dawn and came to the golf course as fresh as daisies and ready to take on the world, never mind their Scottish rivals.

The team of Sean Kennedy, Gary Noble, David Miskelly and Johnny McBride were due to catch the 7.30 ferry last night. When they realised they had won they immediately altered their plans and settled for the 11.55pm boat instead. They were last seen celebrating right royally in the Haggis Castle bar.

They thought they had no



One of the competitors splashes out of a bunker at Haggis Castle yesterday

chance when they scored only two points on the 2nd, but, with the best two scores counting on each hole, they then scored steadily throughout their round and finished with a six-point haul on the 18th.

The only team with a woman member, Brian Donaldson Ltd, finished fourth on 84 points. The team, led by Brian Donaldson, contained his wife, Rosemary, who upstaged the men in their golf day during the competition.

The team's only complaint about the competition was

that when the handicap committee at Kilmarnock Ballymore spotted a report in The Times detailing Rosemary Donaldson's exploits they promptly cut her handicap from 22 to 19.

She has since been cut a further two strokes, and with her husband having two duffed off his handicap and their guest, David Hancock, losing two off his while the fourth member of the team, Frank Nolan, has had one added because of a hand injury, the quartet went into the regional final eight shots worse off than when they entered the competition.

Blue Jays clinch play-off

THE Toronto Blue Jays beat the Chicago White Sox 6-3 on Tuesday to win the American League championship baseball play-off 4-2. The Jays will start their defence of the World Series title on Saturday by playing host to either the Philadelphia Phillies or the Atlanta Braves.

Dave Stewart, of Toronto, who extended his career play-off record to eight wins and no defeats, was named most-valuable player. Chicago committed three errors to ensure they did not win a game at home in the play-off.

Smith stands in

Boxing: Eamonn Loughran will box Lorenzo Smith, 26, from Chicago, for the vacant WBO welterweight title in Belfast on Saturday. Loughran was initially due to fight Gert Bo Jacobsen, of Denmark, the champion, but he pulled out and vacated the title because of flu. The former champion, Manning Galloway, then declined the offer to stand in.

Easy for Chang

Tennis: Michael Chang easily beat Christo van Rensburg, of South Africa, in his opening match at the indoor tournament in Tokyo yesterday. The American served well to beat van Rensburg 6-3, 6-4 in 96 minutes in the second round. Unseeded Gref Rusedski, of Canada, beat Wayne Ferreira, of South Africa, the No 11 seed, 4-6, 6-3, 7-5.

Woodhall defends

Boxing: Richie Woodhall, the Commonwealth middle-weight champion from Telford, will make the second defence of his title against Gerry Meekison, from Canada, at West Bromwich Gala Baths on Wednesday, October 27. Woodhall is unbeaten in 13 professional contests.

Street steps down

Snooker: Alan Street, who was appointed chief executive of the World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association on August 2, has left the position with the governing body by "mutual consent".

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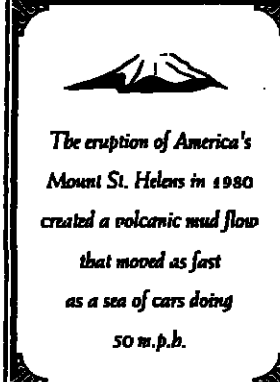
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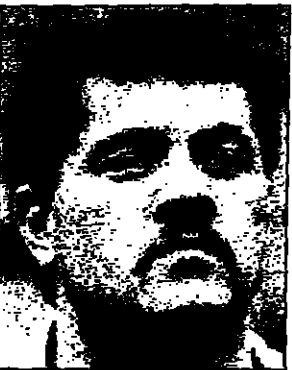
All Blacks weakened by Little's withdrawal

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THERE is no substitute for experience these days. New Zealand, forced to amend yet again their party to tour England and Scotland, have called up Marty Berry, capped once in 1986, as a replacement for Walter Little. The London team to play the North on Saturday will include not only Jeff Probyn but Huw Davies, whose last cap also came in 1986.

The New Zealand selectors must be seriously worried. Little's withdrawal yesterday deprives them of the only player in the back division with more than 20 caps — and one, too, who has experience of British conditions which comparatively few others have.

Apert from previous tours, Little spent half a season with Rugby two years ago. His problem stems from the medial ligament damage he suffered in the first international against the British Isles in Christchurch last June. He has played for North Harbour since but clearly the knee remains doubtful and he joins Michael Jones, who broke his jaw last week, on the sidelines. With John Kirwan omitted, a lead now falls on Frank Bunce, the senior midfield player.



Little: knee injury

Berry, 27, is a strong-running centre who can play stand-off half or full back. His cap came as an injury-time replacement against Australia but his no-nonsense approach will clearly be an asset for the All Blacks' midweek team.

London are unable to include the injured Wasps, Alan Buzza and Chris Oti, against the North at Old Trafford and it is a commentary on the full backs available to the division that Davies, now 34, should replace Buzza. Capable footballer that he is, Davies is not expected to add to his 21 caps, yet there is every prospect of his playing for London against New Zealand in the opening match of the tour on October 23.

Darren O'Leary plays on the left wing with Tony Underwood, facing his old division, on the right and Probyn is preferred at tight-head prop to Andy Mullins, of Harlequins. Mullins, of course, is a member of the England training squad, whereas Probyn, to his displeasure, is not.

Here he packs down again with Jason Leonard and Brian Moore, with whom he has played 17 internationals and could yet play more.

The Midlands have been forced to make two changes to their XV to play the South and South-West at Bath. Martin Johnson, the Leicester lock, has a recurrence of a shoulder injury and John Phillips, of Northampton, takes his place and Craig Barrow, of Bristol, is called up for John Wells, the Leicester flanker, who has a damaged hand.

LONDON DIVISION (v North): H. Davies (Wasps); T. Underwood (Leicester); D. O'Leary (Harlequins); D. Hopley (Wasps); C. O'Leary (Wasps); R. Andrew (Wasps); S. Bame (Wasps); J. Leonard (Harlequins); B. Moore (Harlequins); J. Probyn (Wasps); M. Jones (Wasps); A. Buzza (Wasps); R. Leonard (Wasps); A. Buzza (Wasps); D. Hopley (Wasps); D. Hopley (Wasps). (Replacements to be named.)

New laws putting the boot in



DAVID HANDS

Rugby Commentary



Blanco, of France, for whom rugby was the art of the possible. Photograph: David Cannon/Allsport

France, Australia and Wales have provided rugby union with some of the most creative play and players in the game's history. In particular, graceful back play, much of which contrasts favourably with the confrontational approach of today.

Take two obvious examples: Wales have traditionally provided the core of character and flair associated with the most successful and best-loved British Isles touring parties; and the epic semi-final between Australia and France during the 1987 World Cup was an illustration of what rugby could be, at least before the lawmakers got to grips with it last year.

The names of brilliant French backs trip lightly off the tongue, among them Jo Maso, that wonderfully unpredictable centre of the late Sixties and early Seventies, his natural bell of the Eighties, Didier Cadornion, and the supreme Serge Blanco, players who fell in love with the possibilities of rugby rather than the probabilities. So it came as an unpleasant surprise to discover the extent to which the penalty goal dominated the French club championship at the weekend.

For example, Castres, the champions, beat Bayonne 40-16, a match in which ten penalties were kicked, seven by the winners, and Rumilly beat Brive 15-6, with five penalties to a penalty and a dropped goal. The pattern was the same elsewhere. It is this what the lawmakers intended when they changed what was a game of infinite capacity in the interests of greater safety.

Initial studies of Australian club rugby last summer, after the introduction of laws designed to speed up the game, appeared to support the law's makers' hopes. In percentage terms, there was more rugby to watch. But action for

the sake of action is not that much more attractive and I have yet to be persuaded that the game since the laws changed is much better.

Take two recent internationals. Wales beat England last season on the back of an outstanding defensive display. All the rugby came from England, who never came to terms with the new laws. Or what about Australia against South Africa in the third international of their summer series? Australia, with some of the best players in the world, scored one try against two breakaways by the beaten Springboks. Too many international tries this year have been scored direct from high kicks.

As for the domestic game, I have received some interesting figures from Stuart Farmer, the Leicester statistician. He has made a study of the top two divisions in the first six league seasons in England, which show that tries per game have been in steady decline. In 1992-3, when the five-point try was introduced along with the new laws promoting "open" rugby, the lowest average was recorded.

From the height of nearly five a game during 1989-90, the rate was just over three for the first division last season and just under three in the second division. Nor have the new laws had any obvious effect on penalties. Four a match was the norm for the first division in 1991-2 and the decline was marginal last season.

Next week the International Rugby Football Board, the game's lawmakers, sit down in London for its autumn meeting. I wonder whether it will draw similar conclusions from the events of the last 18 months or whether it thinks that new laws for old is a good deal.

Endeavour extends lead over Dickson

By BARRY PICKTHALL

GRANT Dalton's maxi yacht, New Zealand Endeavour, stretched her lead over Chris Dickson's pace-setting Whitbread 60, Tokio, by ten miles yesterday as the Whitbread Round the World Race fleet continued to press southwards towards Punta del Este, Uruguay, the first port of call in this 33,000-mile marathon event.

The boat to make the greatest gains, however, was Ross Field's rival New Zealand entry, Yamaha. During 12 hours yesterday, Yamaha averaged 13 knots — substantially more than the two leaders — and is within striking distance of Intrum Justitia, the European entry, skippered by Roger Nilsson.

"We are on a charge again," Field said. "We are starting to make small gains that will get us back into the race. We are cruising along at around 13 knots with a 15-18 knot breeze on the beam." In the second group, trailing more than 100 miles behind the first eight boats, Guido Maisto's 60-footer, Brookfield, has overhauled the US Women's Challenge and is threatening Britain's Dolphin & Youth Challenge, skippered by Matt Humphries.

The south-east trade winds are providing a rough ride, not least for Nilsson's crew on Intrum Justitia, who have been hampered by problems with their water ballast tanks. "The winds are gusting up to 20 knots and we are now realising the manpower needed to sail these boats to their full potential," Magnus Olsson, the watch leader, said.

LEADING POSITIONS (at 1400 GMT yesterday with miles to Punta del Este, Uruguay): New class 1, New Zealand Endeavour (G Dalton, NZ), 1,810 miles; 2, West Cup (P Fehrmann, Swed), 1,884; 3, La Posse (D Malt, Fr), 1,922; 4, Uruguay Natural (G Vandoni, Ur), 2,300; Whitbread 60 class 1, Tokio (C Dickson, NZ), 2,352; 2, Celtic (S Preece, Ir), 2,357; 3, Winston (D Cornish, Sw), 1,922; 4, Intrum Justitia (R Nilsson, Sw), 1,922; 5, Yamaha (R Field, NZ), 1,970; 6, Dolphin & Youth Challenge (M Humphries, GB), 2,175; 7, Brookfield (G Maisto, It), 2,185; 8, US Women's Challenge (Ir, Fr), 2,244; 9, Intrum Justitia (R Nilsson, Sw), 2,318; 10, Celtic Moscow Times (A Verba, Ur), 2,353. Results issued by British Telecom.

Gullikson launches recruitment campaign

By STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE United States, which won the Davis Cup nine times between 1968 and 1982, has taken a step towards restoring its stature in the competition. Tom Gullikson, the newly appointed captain, is promising to realise the potential of a team that should be the strongest virtually every year.

The theory was not put into practice under Tom Gorman. During his eight years in charge, the Americans won the cup only twice, a comparatively undistinguished record that prompted him to resign last month. Crucially, he was no longer able to persuade the leading players to represent their country.

Gullikson, preferred ahead of Stan Smith and Brad Gilbert, should be able to do so. He could not have a more convenient ally. His identical twin and former doubles partner, Tim, happens to be the coach of the player ranked No 1 in the world, Pete Sampras, the Wimbledon and US Open champion.

Before the announcement, Tom Gullikson contacted Sampras and other prominent candidates such as Jim Courier, Michael Chang, Todd Martin, MaliVai Washington and Andre Agassi. He also spoke to John McEnroe, who for "personal considerations" chose last week not to be considered as Gorman's successor.

"They all seemed very excited about the prospect of playing," Gullikson said. "Recruiting is a very important part of the job and the response has been very good so far. We have a great pool of talent and one of my goals is to pick the best possible team for each tie." Gullikson's first duty will be to react to the draw, to be made in London on Tuesday, before starting to assemble his team.

Steffi Graf, the holder, has withdrawn from the Autograph Classic in Brighton next week. The German world No 1 is recovering from surgery on a foot injury.

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Championship series: Toronto 6, Chicago 3 (Toronto wins series 4-2).

FOOTBALL

World Cup

Group three

IRELAND 0 (1) SPAIN 3 (3)

IRELAND 72, SPAIN 14, 26

European under-21

Wales 15, 42, 10, 82

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INCLUDES ESSEX MAN WHO WINS £612,867

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championship

Group one

ITALY 13, 44, 70, 100

Group two

Wales 15, 42, 10, 82

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MARIA (a) and (c). Love's Labour's Lost: an attendant on the Princess of France, she is the most genial of the four ladies. "Maria: 'You sheep, and I pasture shall that finish the jest.' Boyet: 'So you grant pasture for me.' (Offering to kiss her). (Act II, sc. 1). And in Twelfth Night: Olivia's lady-in-waiting, a pert, lively girl and exceedingly very small.

REBECK (b). Romeo and Juliet: Hugh Rebeck is the second of the three musicians who play for the Capulets.

OLD LADY (c). Henry VIII: Anne Bullen's servant and confidant. She is blunt, worldly-wise, officious and unceremonious. She appears in two scenes. In her first scene she advises Anne to accept whatever preference Henry gives her: "Old Lady: 'You would not be a queen? Anne: 'No, not for all the riches under heaven.' (Act II, sc. 3).

JOHN MOWBRAY DUKE OF NORFOLK (a). Henry VI Part Three: Minor Yorkist, active on the battlefield. Act I scene 1: "We'll all assist you: he that flies shall die." York: "Thanks, gentle Norfolk."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

Black forces checkmate after 1... Ng3+ 2 h3g3 (2 Kg1 Ne2+ 2... Qh3+ 3 Kg1 Qh1+ 4 Kf2 Qg2.

Boksic to join Lazio at end of month

ALLEN Boksic, the Marseille forward, is to join Lazio before the end of the month, the Rome club confirmed yesterday. He is likely to make his debut in the Italian first division when Lazio play Napoli on November 7.

Boksic, 23, from Croatia, is the first of Marseille's leading players to be sold in the wake of the club's involvement in France's match-fixing scandal. He joined Marseille from Hajduk Split for \$1.8 million (about £1.2 million) last season and led the scoring in the French league with 23 goals.

He was due to move to Lazio at the end of the season but with Marseille being banned from defending the European Cup, and expecting a shortfall of \$23 million because of it, Bernard Tapie, the chairman, decided to bring forward the \$12.5 million transfer. Basile Boli, the defender, and Didier Deschamps, the midfielder player, may be the next to move as Marseille try to balance its books.

"The only thing missing to complete the transfer is the player's signature but that's a formality," Mario Benacchia, a Lazio press spokesman, said. "The idea of Paul Gascoigne and Allen playing together is fantastic. Paul will look a lot better with Allen in the team."

Lazio have made a poor start to the season and trail AC Milan, the league leaders, by six points after seven matches. As Italian teams can start with a maximum of three non-domestic players, Boksic's ar-



Gascoigne: early return

rival could lead to the transfer of Thomas Doll, the Germany forward, who is attracting the interest of SV Hamburg. Lazio also have Gascoigne and Aron Winter, the Dutch midfielder player.

Gascoigne, who twisted a knee two weeks ago, resumed training this week and Lazio doctors said he may return to action earlier than expected. "He may play a portion of the league match against Piacenza on Sunday and, for sure, the Uefa Cup match against Bouviste on Wednesday," a Lazio spokesman said.

□ Gordon Strachan, the 36-year-old Leeds United midfielder player, will be unable to play for at least six weeks. A scan on the knee injury he sustained in the 2-1 Coca-Cola Cup second-round defeat against Sunderland last week revealed medial ligament damage.

□ Senegal has decided to pull its clubs out of international competition for at least two years while it restructures the sport within the country. Ousmane Paye, the Senegal sports minister, said yesterday. The only exception would be the finals of the African Nations' Cup in Tunisia next March, for which Senegal have qualified.

Senegal is suffering a financial crisis and its football team has not had a successful year. They qualified for the Nations' Cup only after Algeria were banned for fielding a suspended player.

Asian hopefuls concentrate on World Cup

THREE of the world's most vilified nations are hoping to thumb their noses at their detractors by qualifying for the World Cup finals next year. Iraq, Iran and North Korea, whose names alone register unease in the United States, begin their quests in Doha, Qatar, tomorrow for a place at the 1994 finals.

They are joined by South Korea, Saudi Arabia and Japan — all politically aligned with the United States — for the Asian group second round, from which two teams will progress to the finals.

Iraq, which was involved in the Gulf War against an American-led coalition, are on a self-styled revenge mission and their campaign for the finals has reportedly been led by President Saddam Hussein's eldest son, Qdai. The Iraqis have undertaken a strict training regime since edging out China in the first qualification round. It has included hiking

over sand dunes and swimming the Tigris River to harden the players physically.

Iran, whose centuries-old conflicts with Iraq included the 1980-8 war, in which more than one million people were killed, remain isolated by the West because of the death sentence imposed on the author, Salman Rushdie.

North Korea are still technically at war with South Korea following their 1950-3 hostilities and their alleged secret nuclear weapons programme has led to an increase of tension recently.

As part of their proposal to host the World Cup, the United States agreed to grant visas to all qualifying teams. However, they are edgy about the Asian line-up. Peter Velappan, general secretary of the Asian Football Confederation, said: "The Americans are what you might describe as a little nervous about the

possibility of such teams qualifying." Velappan is keen to deflect the eyes of the world's media from the political overtones to the football credentials of the six sides. "Naturally, when people look at the line-up, they see the politics not the football," he said. "But the reality is we have never had a tougher or closer World Cup qualifying group in Asia. We have made it very clear to the participating teams that these games have to rise above politics."

An observer from Fifa, the sport's world governing body, who is in Qatar for the two-week event, said: "It is a diplomatic minefield. Certain measures have been taken to calm things but our aim is to forget the politics."

Certainly, attempts have been made. All the teams are in the Gulf Sheraton hotel but Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Iran have been kept on separate floors. But Iraq's official

press is still treating the tournament as a re-run of the Gulf War. The prospect of a trip to the United States to parade in front of the leaders of the international embargo against Iraq is a chance in a million.

"Fight to the death and come back to Iraq with a passport for the country of Uncle Sam," *Al-Baath Arriyadhi*, an Iraqi sports newspaper, wrote in a message to the country's players in Qatar. "The Iraqi people will accept nothing less than victory."

Japan desperately want to qualify for the first time to boost their bid to host the 2002 World Cup. The professional J-League, launched earlier this year, has whipped the country into a football frenzy and so high is the interest in the Qatar qualifying matches, 300 Japanese media representatives applied for accreditation.

South Korea possess the pedigree

to do well, having played in the 1986 and 1990 World Cups, while North Korea are the only Asian side to have reached the World Cup quarter-finals after they beat Italy in the 1966 tournament in England.

Iran have qualified for the finals once before, in 1978, and made an impression by holding Scotland to a 1-1 draw in Argentina. The Iraqis played in the 1986 Mexico finals, losing all three of their matches.

Despite pumping vast amounts of money into football and hiring leading coaches from Brazil, Saudi Arabia have never made it to the World Cup finals. The qualifying tournament starts with North Korea playing Iraq and Saudi Arabia taking on Japan on Friday.

Fortnight, Oct 18: N Korea v Iraq, Saudi Arabia v Japan, Oct 18: Iran v S Korea, Oct 18: N Korea v Saudi Arabia, Japan v Iran, Oct 19: Iraq v S Korea, Oct 21: N Korea v Japan, Oct 22: Iran v Iraq, S Korea v Saudi Arabia, Oct 24: Iran v Saudi Arabia, Oct 25: Japan v S Korea, Iran v N Korea, Oct 28: S Korea v N Korea, Saudi Arabia v Iran, Iraq v Japan.

Hartlepool players pay price of poverty

By LOUISE TAYLOR

LESS than a year ago narrowly avoiding being wound up in the High Court, Hartlepool United is back in financial trouble.

Deep trouble. So acute is the cash flow problem that the second division club failed to pay its players wages last week. Having been promised their money last Friday, then Saturday, squad members halted training on Monday when none was forthcoming.

Some were finally given cash to meet urgent bills from money taken at the gate last Saturday before training resumed. Others went without but, on threatening to strike, were paid out of the pocket of Garry Gibson, the chairman, on Tuesday. One player said: "We've just about had enough. This is not the first time we've had this sort of problem."

The trouble is Hartlepool is not breaking even. Only 1,802 supporters watched the team lose to Brentford at the Victoria Ground on Saturday. The club's average gate is 2,500, the smallest in the second division. Gibson said: "We cannot survive on gates of 2,500. My message to the people of Hartlepool is come and support us now. We need a dramatic improvement in gates."

Hartlepool made £6,000 at the turnstiles from the Brentford match but Gibson said the club's weekly wage bill is £18,000. "This could involve us cutting back on personnel, including the playing staff."

Gibson, a property developer, is talking to the Professional Footballers' Association about the possibility of the players' union helping out with wages. Such negotiations evoke memories of last season. Then Hartlepool owed around £250,000 to creditors. A company that installed perspex dugout hoods eventually pursued the club to the High Court in the new year. Hartlepool was granted a stay of execution before coming up with the cash.

The debts were partly offset by the sale of Andy Saville, the talented striker, to Birmingham City for £150,000. But with Hartlepool at present in the relegation zone, managers are not falling over themselves to sign players from the club, although the central defender, Tom McCue, has attracted limited interest.

When Gibson was recently introduced to the father of Viv Busby, his manager, his opening line was: "I'm the man

who will most probably have to sack your son one day." That day may be sooner rather than later, but Busby remains defiant.

"We haven't scored for four league games but Liverpool haven't scored in five and look at the players they've got," he said. "We are not defending very well either and our goalkeeper, Tim Carter, is being pushed into making too many saves. I like to think players can disregard our problems when they get out on to the pitch, but if things aren't running too smoothly off the pitch it can affect them on it."

Located in between Middlesbrough and Sunderland and within striking range of Newcastle United, Hartlepool's crowd-pulling power is, at the best of times, limited.

Significantly, Sir John Hall, the Newcastle chairman, has said he believes many second and third division clubs will have folded by the year 2000. Hartlepool could be one of them.

Not that Gibson is giving up. "I want Bobby Gould [the Coventry manager] to come and buy one of my players," he said. "He pays amazingly high prices for lower division players."

Certainly, the club needs to find a means of generating fresh funds. Ominously, Hartlepool do not have a home game until after the players are due to receive their pay packets again at the end of next week.

□ Diego Maradona will learn today whether he will be allowed into Australia to play for Argentina in their World Cup qualifying match in Sydney on October 31. Under Australian immigration laws, Maradona could be barred entry into the country following his conviction for cocaine possession in an Italian court two years ago.

Immigration officials said Maradona had applied for a visitor's visa on Tuesday to play in the first-leg tie. "Forty-five visa applications were made to our embassy in Argentina and Diego Maradona's name was included on that list," Jenny Hoskin, an immigration department representative, said.

Maradona was given a 14-month suspended sentence for cocaine possession in a Naples court in September and that year he was banned from football for 15 months after testing positive for cocaine while with the Italian club, Napoli.



Ronnie Whelan, of Ireland, races past Fernando Ruiz Hierro during the World Cup match against Spain yesterday. Spain won 3-1, their goals coming in the first half. Report, page 48. Photograph: Ray McManus

Jones's scoring spree consoles Wales

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

LEE Jones scored a hat-trick as Wales Under-21 thrashed Cyprus 6-2 at a rain-swept Wrexham yesterday. Wales had no chance of qualifying for the final stages of the Uefa under-21 championship but used the occasion to demonstrate some of the talent that their manager, Terry Yorath, can look forward to using in the future.

The Welsh youngsters fell behind after only four minutes, but within another three minutes they were level as John Harrison, 18, the Luton striker, who was making his debut, slipped a good ball across for Jones to score.

Three minutes later Jones, at present out of favour at Liverpool and on loan to Crewe, returned the compliment as he crossed for Harrison to head home the second.

Wales went 3-1 up as Gareth Owen caused confusion in the Cyprus box and Jones scored from the loose ball in the sixteenth minute.

He completed his hat-trick from close range in the 42nd minute after good work by Harrison.

Four minutes into the second half, Harrison scored his second, heading in a Rob Edwards corner and the sixth goal arrived as the excellent Harrison again confused the Cyprus defenders, knocking the ball across for Karl Ready,

of Queens Park Rangers, to score from close range. Cyprus pulled a goal back 12 minutes from time through Agathocleous.

This was Wales's biggest win at this level since their under-21 team was re-formed three years ago.

Benito Carbone, the Torino striker, scored a brilliant hat-trick in Avezzano to help Italy Under-21 to destroy their Scottish counterparts 5-2 and leave Aberdeen under no illusions about the task facing them in the next round of the Uefa Cup.

Aberdeen fly to Turin next week for their tie against Torino and will have to keep a close watch on Carbone, who

set up the other two goals in his side's victory. Sandro Cois, another Torino player, headed the last of Italy's five goals to underline the difficulty of the assignment.

Christian Dailly and Paul Bernard scored for Scotland.

David Watson, the Barnsley goalkeeper, is hoping he has arrived on the England Under-21 scene to stay after an excellent debut in the 1-1 draw in Holland in Utrecht on Tuesday night.

Watson was promoted from the under-18 side to displace Oldham's Mark Gerrard and pulled off a magnificent save in each half. Gary Chilcote, of Manchester City, scored the England goal.

Wembley aspires to become new base for league

By CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

WHATEVER the crowd on Saturday for the first John Smith's game between Great Britain and New Zealand — the projected attendance is put at around 30,000 — the Rugby Football League is committed to Wembley as a regular international venue.

As this is not an all-ticket match, the estimate, based on advance ticket sales, is probably modest. To critics of the decision to open the three-match series in London, who fear a half-full house, or worse, Maurice Lindsay, the league's chief executive, is emphatic.

"When we are looking to broaden the horizons of the game, I find it extraordinary narrow-minded that some people should knock the idea, instead of actively supporting a bold initiative," he said. "Not only will we play Australia at Wembley next year, but the stadium will be the venue for the opening and closing matches of the 1995 World Cup, and internationals beyond."

After the international record crowd at Wembley last October of 73,631 for the World Cup final with Australia, Saturday — only the fifth time in 30 years the stadium has hosted an international — is bound to suffer by comparison. Yet the final number could yet push the record 42,680 for a game with New Zealand at Bradford in 1947. The crowd will also be substantially more than the 20,000 anticipated for the other games at Wigan a fortnight later and Leeds on November 6.

The detractors observe that New Zealand are not the popular draw Australia are and should, therefore, not be allowed out of the English game's northern enclave. This blinkered pessimism is what Lindsay is attempting to eradicate. "You don't progress by standing still," he said.

It also diminishes the huge recent advances taken by New Zealand rugby league, and the real potential for upset at Wembley. Unlike Australia's suffocating defensive game, the Kiwis have already this year, shown marvellous attacking flair and ambition. A strong and mobile pack would also appear to have the edge on Britain's six.

Alan Hunte, the St Helens winger, who withdrew from Britain's squad for Wembley on Monday after suffering a knee cartilage injury, may miss the series after undergoing an operation yesterday, although he is refusing to rule himself out of the second and third internationals on October 30 and November 6 respectively.

Hunte, 23, said: "I'm hoping to be back for the league match against Sheffield next week and to be in the reckoning for the next Test. It's an old problem from two years ago and it's just a matter of seeing how it settles down. I caught the knee in the first half against Wakefield on Sunday but there was no reaction until about two-and-a-half hours after the game, when it suddenly felt sore and weak."

"It would obviously have been nice to be playing at Wembley, especially as I've never played against New Zealand, but looking on the bright side, I've got to look on the bright side and hope I'll be back soon."

Alan Tait, the Leeds and former Scotland rugby union full back, is Hunte's replacement, although his appearance on the substitutes bench is as cover for Jonathan Davies, who is new to the full back position internationally.

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مركزنا للأعمال

BBC1

- 6.00 Business Breakfast** (121527)
7.00 Breakfast News (16347004)
9.05 Kiboy Robert Kiboy-Sale chairs a studio discussion on a topical subject (6569530) 9.45 Newsround
 Ross King and Julie Peasgood with another round of the current affairs quiz (4592998)
10.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (4496153) 10.05 Playhouse (1) (7138191)
10.30 Good Morning ... with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (8) (8703342)
12.15 Pebble Mill Music and celebrity chat hosted by Alan Titchmarsh. The guests include Mike McShane and actor John Hally (s) (3202783) 12.55 Regional News and weather (231980) 1.30 News
1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (51356)
1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (6601298) 1.50 Going For Gold with Henry Kelly (s) (66016714)
2.15 Film: Bombardier (1942) starring Pat O'Brien and Randolph Scott. Second world war American Air Force drama directed by Richard Wallace (822284)
3.50 Slinky Bill Cartoon (s) (6380725) 4.15 Get Your Own Back. Music game show (s) (2235578) 4.30 Uncle Jack and Cleopatra's Mummy. With Paul Jones and Fenella Fielding (Ceefax) (s) (633627)
4.55 Newsround (504917) 5.05 Blue Peter. Enduring children's magazine. (Ceefax) (s) (1489066)
5.35 News at Nine (Ceefax) (s) (738207)
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Andrew Harvey and Jenni Bond. (Ceefax) (s) (738207)
6.30 Regional News Magazines (733)
7.00 Top of the Pops (Ceefax) (s) (1424)



Sid Owen's plan is demolished (7.30pm)

- 7.30 EastEnders** Frank's (Mike Reid) DIY efforts thwart Ricky's (Sid Owen) plan to help the homeless. (Ceefax) (s) (917)
8.00 Waiting For God Comedy series set in a retirement home starring Stephanie Cole and Graham Crowden. (Ceefax) (s) (6612)
8.30 Living Dangerously: Have Fish Had Their Chips? - A Seal's Eye View. (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (9207)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Marlyn Lewis. (Ceefax) (s) (9207)
9.30 Africa on a Knife Edge Documentary presented by Gavin Campbell. (Ceefax) (s) (704917)
9.35 One Foot in the Grave Victor's temper does not improve when he is stuck in a traffic jam on the way to a visit to the zoo (s). (Ceefax) (s) (452917)
10.05 Absolutely Fabulous Edina's decision to import an isolation tank from Los Angeles has an unexpected effect on her fragile demeanour. Starring Jennifer Saunders and Joanna Lumley (s). (Ceefax) (s) (452917)
10.35 Question Time chaired by Peter Sissons from Maidstone. The guests are Sir Bernard Ingham, Elizabeth Symons, general secretary of the FDA, and MPs William Walegare and Bryan Gould (559207). Wales: The State 11.05 Question Time 12.05am-12.50am Reprising the Candle
11.35 Reprising the Candle A service of thanksgiving to re-dedicate the Bay of Maris synagogues, the oldest in Britain, damaged by IRA bombs (s) (563820)
12.00am Weather (4934009) 12.25 Choice
3.00-3.30 BBC Select: RCN Nursing Update. Stopping Smoking (56641)

BBC2

- 6.00 Breakfast News** (6564066)
8.15 Reviving Antiques Advice on cleaning items of memorabilia (s) (4486355) 8.30 Kingdom of Fun. A 40 Minutes documentary about multi-millionaire businessman John Hall who created the North East's "Empire of Leisure" (s) (5570424)
9.00 Daytime on Two Educational programmes. Plus, for children, 1.20 Greenclaws (8347537) 1.35 Dilly the Dinosaur (78192207)
2.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (82176630) 2.05 Come Outside (s) (88893443)
2.15 Golf Dougie Donnelly introduces action from the Dunhill Cup, a round-robin international event being played at St Andrews. Includes News (Ceefax) and weather at 3.00 and 3.50 (38391917)
5.30 From the Edge Fortnightly magazine series looking at current issues from the point of view of the disabled. (Ceefax) (882)
6.00 Film: Bandolero (1958) starring Robert Mitchum and Zachary Scott. American gun-turbo becomes involved in the 1916 Mexican Revolution. Directed by Richard Fleischer (86207). Wales: Teenage Dances 6.40-7.30 Timewatch
7.30 World Chess Championship. The latest news in the Garry Kasparov/Anatoly Karpov match (559)
8.00 First Sight: Whose Body Is It Anyway? The first in a new series is a disturbing report of how women are being given hysterectomies without their consent. Northern Ireland: Ulster In Focus; Wales: Week in West; East: Matter of Fact; Midlands: Michigan Report; North: North East; North West: Close Up North; South: Southern Eye; South West: Close Up; West: Close Up West (8714)
8.30 Top Gear Mercedes Clarkson test driving the new C-class Mercedes-Benz and a look at car accessories. How much do they add to the value when sold secondhand? (Ceefax) (s) (7849)
9.00 Red Dwarf VI Science fiction comedy series starring Chris Barrie and Craig Charles (5085)
9.30 The Dog's Tale: Matters of Life and Death (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (383337)
10.10 Seal Objects of Desire: The Videotape (Ceefax) (s) See Choice (578755)
10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (414795)
11.15 Poets' News. Poets give their interpretation of the day's news (s) (400666)
11.20 The Late Show. Crime writers Elmore Leonard and Michael Dibdin discuss the genre (s) (874376)
11.55 Weather (235959)
12.00 Midnight Jazz. Pianist McCoy Tyner with the Julian Joseph Quartet (3999738). Wales (to 1.25am): Hugh Masekela



Profile of jazz singer Billie Holiday (12.00am)

- 12.00am Billie Holiday - The Long Night of Lady Day**. An Arena profile, first shown in 1984 (491931). Ends at 2.20
VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode
 The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes. These can be used with a VideoPlus+ or VideoPlus+2 VCR to find out more about a programme. VideoPlus+ can be used with most VCRs. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to find out more about. For more information on VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode, see the VideoPlus+ section on page 48. VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCode are trademarks of General Marketing Ltd.

CHOICE

Critical Eye: Warrior Marks
Channel 4, 9.00pm
 In a cool but passionate film the American writer Alice Walker returns to the theme of her novel, *Possessing the Secret of Joy*, and highlights the widespread practice of female genital mutilation. For people in the West the case must hardly need proving. It seems self-evident that mutilating young girls is painful, dangerous to health and an abuse of their gender. It is even worse when women do the damage and the victims are made to feel the guilt. The film is not only deeply engrained in African cultures but as Walker points out, thousands of children in Europe and the United States are also at risk. There is even a move to legalise the process in Britain.



Seals are designed to capture fish (BBC1, 8.30pm)

Living Dangerously: Have Fish Had Their Chips?
BBC1, 8.30pm
 The connection between seals, the main subject of this film, and chips is that the more fish they consume the less there is for us. The location is the waters off the Isle of Mull. Seals are perfectly designed to capture fish and the programme offers footage to prove it. Fish is the basis of the mother seal's milk, among the richest in the world. Sea eagles, puffins, gulls and the smaller marine mammals are also competing for limited fish stocks. Meanwhile, despite availing himself of the newest technology, a fisherman returns to port with a half-empty hold and a huge debt and a local fish and chip shop is threatened with closure. Culling seals is one answer. But what may be acceptable to the Danes may be seen as slaughter by the Scots.

The Dog's Tale: Matters of Life and Death

BBC2, 9.30pm
 Two contrasting stories feature the dog as man's, or in this case, woman's best friend. Elizabeth Rudy is a young woman with a dog called Ribbon. She suffers from sudden and unannounced epileptic fits, which used to dominate her life. Thanks to Ribbon they do so no longer. For reasons no scientist can explain, he is able to foretell the fits and warn his mistress. A second report is from the state of Washington where Sue Miller has a group of women who run a dog training school. The dogs come from a pound and are turned into working animals for the disabled. The favour works two ways for saving stray dogs helps to keep the women sane. The school operates in a top security prison where Sue Miller is among inmates serving life for murder.

ITV LONDON

- 6.00 GMTV** Early morning news and entertainment. The guests include Blythe Duff from the cast of *Taggart* (6727462)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (s) (5461511) 9.55 London Today (Teletext) and weather (7104511)
10.00 The Time... The Place... (s) (1188620)
10.35 This Morning Weekday magazine (87027801)
12.20 London Today (Teletext) and weather (8205511)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News with Dermot Murnaghan and Julia Somerville. (Teletext) Weather (4365559)
12.55 Emmerdale. A repeat of Tuesday's episode. (Teletext) (4374578) 1.25 Home and Away. Australian family drama series. (Teletext) (32519511)
1.55 A Country Practice. Medical drama set in the Australian outback (s) (6600153)
2.20 ITN News headlines (7887122) 2.25 London Today (Teletext) and weather (79021781)
2.30 TV Weekly presented by Eamonn Holmes (s) (820)
2.50 The Young Doctors (4511)
3.30 Tots TV (s) (4359733) 3.40 The Riddlers (1845172) 4.00 The Spooks of Bottle Bay (s) (2207755) 4.15 Rolf's Cartoon Club presented by Paul Harris (735848) 4.45 The Influence of Computers (Teletext) (1406733)
5.10 Home and Away (s) (Teletext) (1406733)
5.40 Early Evening News with Nicholas Owen. (Teletext) Weather (346733)
6.00 London Tonight. Includes actor Christian Slater talking about his new film *True Romance*. (Teletext) (50068)
7.00 Emmerdale. (Teletext) (9202)
7.30 The Big Story: The Krays - Life for Life? Should Britain's most notorious gangland killers be released? Dermot Murnaghan investigates (s) (135)
8.00 The Bill: Changing Heart. Two women are less than pleased when they discover they have lent money to the same chamber. (Teletext) (5240)
8.30 The Upper Hand. Role-reversal romantic comedy starring Jo McLean and Diana Weston (s) (4375)

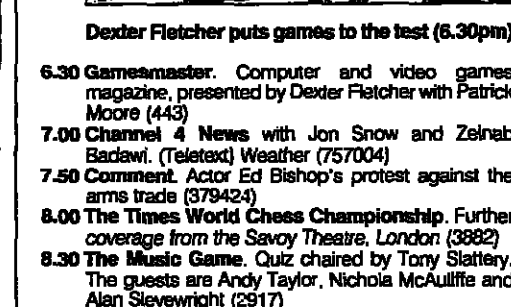


Kelly, Macpherson on opposite sides (8.00pm)

- 9.00 Taggart**. The concluding part of the three-part drama. Taggart (Mark McManus) must find his chief witness or the case against gang leader John McIntosh (Peter Kelly) will collapse. With James Macpherson. (Teletext) (s) (3733)
10.00 News at Ten with Trevor McDonald. (Teletext) Weather (25882) 10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (255511) 10.40 Africa on a Knife Edge. An appeal (555646)
10.45 Big City. A guide to London's entertainment scene (320761) 11.15 The 11.15. American comedy series starring Bill Connelly (504511)
11.40 Raw Soup. Music, conversation and film reviews (s) (651424)
12.00am Beyond Reality. Drama series about two investigative parapsychologists (4942028)
1.10 Donahue. Phil Donahue's guests are wives who are expected by their husbands to earn their keep (452511)
2.00 The Little Picture Show (s) (48405)
3.00 Quiz Night. Pub and club competition (58009)
3.30 America's Top Ten (s) (85202)
4.00 Entertainment UK (s) (74797)
5.00 Rivers. French drama series (37028)
5.30 ITN Morning News with Phil Roman (42399)

CHANNEL 4

- 6.30 Jayce and the Wheeled Warriors**. Animated adventures (23085)
7.00 The Big Breakfast presented by Chris Evans and Sally Stanger (74237)
8.00 You Bet Your Life. American game show hosted by Bill Cosby (s) (42559)
9.30 Schools. Middle English (4503191) 9.46 Mathematical Eye (7401559) 10.07 Scientific Eye (711801) 10.28 Geographical Eye (5476227) (10.50 Believe it or Not (442191) 11.08 Science in the Environment (2525848) 11.28 Coming Together (4746511) 11.40 Musique Ecrologie (818151)
12.00 Profiles of Nature. Tom Stirling's film of animals who spot artists (225807)
12.30 Sesame Street. Entertaining early-learning series. The guest is Cab Calloway (4191)
1.30 Channel 4 Racing from Newmarket and Redcar. Brought Scott and Derek Thompson introduce live coverage of the 1.35 (Green King Stakes), 2.05 (Northern Handicap Stakes), 2.35 (Lancashire Stakes) and 3.10 (Challenge Stakes) races from Newmarket and the 1.50 (EBF Maiden Fillies Stakes) and 2.20 (Two-year-old Trophy) races from Redcar (82172)
3.30 The Times Chess Championship. The latest news from the Garry Kasparov/Anatoly Karpov encounter at the Savoy Theatre, London (21733)
4.30 Fifteen to One. Fast moving knock out general knowledge quiz. The question-master is William G. Stewart. (Teletext) (s) (958)
5.00 The Quash. With Steve. Two couples with troubled marriages test a new approach to reconciliation. (Teletext) (s) (736428)
5.50 Laurel and Hardy. Animation (588801)
6.00 Trash Talk. Tessa Langmead and Albert Thompson are in Buffalo as the home football team, the Bills, prepare to entertain the Houston Oilers (181)



Dexter Fletcher puts games to the test (6.30pm)

- 6.30 Gamesmaster**. Computer and video games magazine, presented by Dexter Fletcher with Patrick Moore (443)
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zelnab Badawi. (Teletext) Weather (757004)
7.50 Comment. Actor Ed Bishop's protest against the arms trade (873424)
8.00 The Times World Chess Championship. Further coverage from the Savoy Theatre, London (3882)
8.30 The Music Game. Quiz chaired by Tony Slattery. The guests are Andy Taylor, Nicola McMillan and Alan Stevenson (2917)
9.00 Critical Eye: Warrior Marks. (Teletext) See Choice (1375)
10.00 Film: Gunercay (1992) starring David Barrymore and James LeGros. Fast-moving Bonnie and Clyde-type thriller about a 16-year-old who murders her sexually abusive guardian and goes on the run with her convict penfriend on his release from prison. Directed by Tanja Davis. (Teletext) (241172)
11.45 The Times World Chess Championship. Analysis of today's game (45472)
12.00am Dispatches. A repeat of yesterday's programme about contract killers hired to murder marriage partners (808844)
1.10 Freedom of the Leg. Polish animator Piotr Dumała's tribute to the surreal artist Marc Chagall (273263). Ends at 1.20

RADIO 1

- FM Stereo and MW. 4.00am** Bruno Brookes (FM only) 5.00 Mark Goodier 5.00 Simon Bates 12.00am News 12.05am News 12.30am News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am News 4.30am News 5.00am News 5.30am News 6.00am News 6.30am News 7.00am News 7.30am News 8.00am News 8.30am News 9.00am News 9.30am News 10.00am News 10.30am News 11.00am News 11.30am News 12.00am News 12.30am News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am News 4.30am News 5.00am News 5.30am News 6.00am News 6.30am News 7.00am News 7.30am News 8.00am News 8.30am News 9.00am News 9.30am News 10.00am News 10.30am News 11.00am News 11.30am News 12.00am News 12.30am News 1.00am News 1.30am News 1.50am News 2.00am News 2.30am News 3.00am News 3.30am News 4.00am News 4.30am News 5.00am News 5.30am News 6.00am News 6.30am News 7.00am News 7.30am News 8.00am News 8.30am News 9.00am News 9.30am News 10.00am News 10.30am News 11.00am 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PLAYERS IN SEARCH
OF RICH PICKINGS
AT ST ANDREWS

SPORT

THURSDAY OCTOBER 14 1993

RUGBY UNION 44
INJURY RULES OUT
LITTLE FROM
ALL BLACKS' TOUR

Defeat against Spain leaves Charlton's side seeking victory in Belfast

Ireland's qualifying hopes recede

Ireland 1
Spain 3

FROM PETER BALL
IN DUBLIN

SPAIN turned Ireland's eagerly awaited celebration party into a wake yesterday afternoon. Three goals in 14 calamitous minutes early in the game mean that Ireland will have to win in Belfast next month to be sure of qualifying for the World Cup finals.

Logic suggests they should still do it, as Javier Clemente, the Spain coach, suggested. "That's if logic ever has a place in football," he added. But history is not on Ireland's side. Their last two games in Northern Ireland have ended in a draw and a defeat, but against a much more powerful team than the present one.

Things can hardly go as badly as they did yesterday. The game exceeded Ireland's

GROUP THREE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Spain	11	7	3	1	26	4	17
Ireland	10	6	4	0	14	1	16
Denmark	10	3	3	4	12	11	12
N Ireland	10	3	3	4	8	21	7
Lithuania	12	0	0	5	7	4	5
Latvia	12	0	0	5	7	4	5
Albania	12	0	0	5	7	4	5

RESULTS: Ireland 1, Spain 3.
FIXTURES: Nov 17: N Ireland v Ireland; Spain v Denmark.
[2] Not included last night's match between Denmark and N Ireland.

worst forebodings as they sank to their first home defeat in competition since 1985, and their heaviest defeat in Jack Charlton's 72 games in charge.

Spain won every important battle, tactically, collectively and individually. Nadal, Hierro, Goicoechea and Salinas had marvellous games, but there was not a weak link in the Spanish team on a day when only Sheridan and Keane could take any satisfaction on the Irish side.

Nadal, the imposing Barcelona sweeper, won the man-of-the-match award, but there was little doubt who did the main damage. Salinas, the veteran forward who is no longer sure of his place in the Barcelona team, destroyed Ireland with his power and sure finishing, scoring two goals and making an important contribution to the other. By the time he departed in the 68th minute, his job was done.

Charlton refused to blame the loss of Aldridge, who failed a fitness test in the morning, for the defeat, but his decision to play five in midfield, with



Keane, the Ireland midfield player, tries to find a way through the Spain defence during the World Cup qualifying match at Lansdowne Road, Dublin, yesterday

only Quinn up front, handed the initiative to Spain.

"When Jack discussed the tactics with us before the game we were all happy about it, so there's no point moaning now," Kevin Moran, the Ireland captain, said. His 69th international was one he will want to forget, lasting only 20 minutes before he limped away. By then Ireland were in desperate straits.

When Clemente said on Tuesday, "I am perhaps the only man in Spain who likes Ireland's style," he was greeted with disbelieving smiles,

but he was evidently speaking the truth. Spain's direct, simple football exposed the Ireland defence, but the finish had the flourish and ruthlessness which bore the stamp "made in Spain".

Initially the game looked to be following the preordained script, as the Spanish defence showed early signs of nerves. These did not last long as the Ireland defence came apart in spectacular fashion.

The first crack appeared after 11 minutes, as Salinas headed on Ferrer's throw-in for Caminero to pounce and

volley home ferociously as the defence stood rooted to the spot.

If that was a wounding blow, the next, four minutes later, was fatal. Salinas was allowed to collect Giner's long ball downfield and he held off Kerraghan and beat Bonner from a narrow angle.

The game had been going 15 minutes and Ireland's hopes were in tatters. The third goal soon followed. Sheridan had just replaced Moran, with McGrath moving into the back four, when Spain broke quickly following an Ireland

corner. Poor Sheridan could not have had a worse beginning, his attempt to prevent Caminero's through-ball reaching Goicoechea succeeding only in turning the ball into Salinas's path, and the forward scored his seventh goal in three games for Spain.

Sheridan did his best to make amends, his preceptive passes threatening the Spanish defence, but with only Quinn up front, and Houghton, Whelan and Staunton all subdued, there was little response, and Spanish breaks looked the most

likely source of further goals. "I thought our back four would cope better than they did," Charlton said.

The second half brought another change as Cascarino replaced Staunton, and the additional forward at last put the Spanish defence under pressure. Sheridan reduced the deficit with just under 20 minutes remaining, but Ireland rarely looked like rescuing anything from the debris.

"We've had a bad day," Charlton said. "Now we've got to have a good day in Belfast, we've got to win. But don't

write us off, we're well capable of that."

IRELAND (4-5-1): P. Bonner (Celtic) — D. Ince (Manchester United), K. Moran (Blackburn Rovers), sub: J. Sheridan, Sheffield Wednesday, 21min. A. Kerraghan (Manchester City), T. Phelan (Manchester City) — R. Houghton (Aston Villa), R. Keane (Manchester United), P. McGrath (Aston Villa), R. Whelan (Liverpool), S. Staunton (Aston Villa), sub: A. Cascarino, Chelsea, 49 — N. Quinn (Manchester City).
SPAIN (1-4-4-1): A. Zubizarreta (Barcelona) — M. Nadal (Barcelona), A. Ferrer (Barcelona), G. Voro (Deportivo La Coruna), Giner (Valencia), F. J. Camarero (Valencia) — M. Goicoechea (Barcelona), J. Camarero (Atletico Madrid), sub: J. Balado, Barcelona, 30, F. Hierro (Real Madrid), Luis Enrique (Real Madrid) — J. Salinas (Barcelona), sub: J. Guardiola, Barcelona, 68.
Referee: P. Baldas (Italy).

Photograph, page 46

Sponsor signs up for tour game in Scotland

BY ALAN LORIMER

THE insurance company, CIS, is to sponsor the match between Scotland A and the New Zealand touring team at Old Anniesland in Glasgow on November 13.

The company's latest link with rugby — the first with the Scottish Rugby Union — follows the decision to give weighty financial backing to the game south of the border. CIS will sponsor New Zealand's games against England A at Gateshead, the South-West at Redruth and Northern division at Anfield, in addition to the county and divisional championships, in a package that will be worth £250,000 this season.

At the announcement in Glasgow yesterday, Laurie Mains, the All Blacks' coach, speaking by telephone from Auckland, accepted that New Zealand have a tougher itinerary than on past tours to Scotland.

They will face South of Scotland, the A team and the development side before playing the full international at Murrayfield.

"To that you can add the first four games in England," Mains said. "It is the nature of short tours that you can no longer play weaker sides."

Asked about the style of game New Zealand would try to play in the absence of Grant Fox, Mains said: "There was only one Grant Fox. He was very meticulous in everything he did but we have a new set of stand-off halves with different strengths and we will develop accordingly."

"Ultimately, though, without the kicking that Grant specialised in, our attack will rely much more on passing the ball."

In reference to some of the newcomers on tour, such as Jeff Wilson and Liam Barry, Mains said that the All Blacks had needed an injection of new blood in specific positions.

"Some of the old campaigners in New Zealand rugby no longer offered what was required under the modern laws; so we brought in some new players," he said.

"Hopefully, two or three of them will come through and fill those areas with the type of player that we think we need in the team in time for the next World Cup."

Little withdraws, page 44

Escalating cost of Sydney Olympics attacked



Fahey: under fire

SYDNEY'S bid for hosting the 2000 Olympic Games is expected to be double the budget submitted in the city's proposal to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

John Fahey, premier of New South Wales, who disclosed the increase, promptly came under fire from opposition politicians who said the city had been misled.

Sydney's winning bid last month had put the price of staging the Games at Aus\$1.7 billion (£730 million), but this did not include building the Olympic site and sporting facilities.

The total cost of building facilities and staging the actual sporting events was Aus\$3 billion (£1.3 billion), Fahey said.

The development of the Olympic site in western Sydney at Homebush Bay, at a cost of Aus\$800 million, was not included because it was part of

capital works planned before the decision to bid for the Games, he added. The Aus\$300 million Olympic village would be funded by the private sector.

Bob Carr, leader of the state's Labour opposition who supported the Sydney Olympic bid, said he was unaware of the additional costs when asked for bi-partisan support for the Games.

"The community of New South Wales will be reeling from the revelation that the Olympics, which were to cost Aus\$1.7 billion, have blown out in the space of 24 hours to Aus\$3 billion," Carr told reporters.

"John Fahey is going to be called on to answer many questions — and as the minister responsible, the buck stops with him," Carr called for a detailed budget for the 2000 Olympics to reveal how the Games could break even.

"We must ensure Sydney avoids the enormous debt other Olympic cities like Barcelona have been saddled with," he said.

Professor Bob Walker, an accounting expert at the University of New South Wales, said the budget could blow out further. "Neither the public nor the parliamentarians have been given full details of the overall budget for an enormous project which is being underwritten by the NSW government," Walker said in a radio interview.

"I am beginning to think... Aus\$3 billion is conservative, because if Fahey is now conceding an Aus\$3 billion expenditure, I don't think he's allowing for interest on the borrowings. Interest components could add another half billion or so," Walker said.

Fahey said his government had contacted the Australian Labour gov-

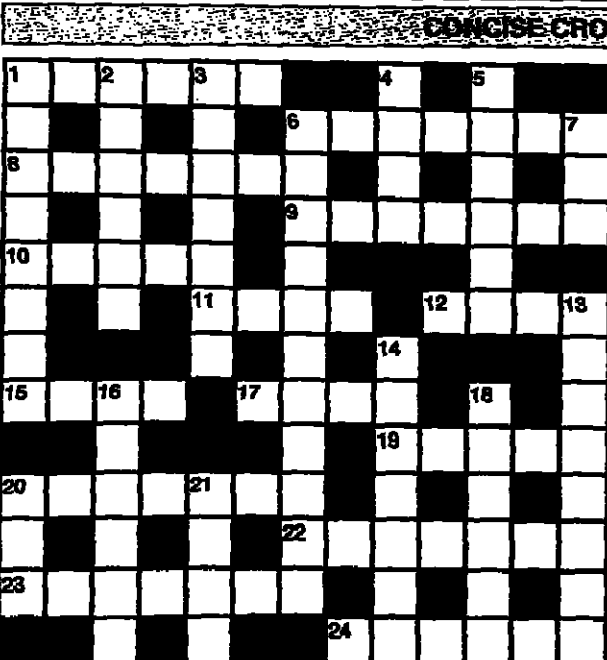
ernment in March requesting it to contribute Aus\$500 million towards the cost of the capital works.

Barcelona, which staged the 1992 Olympics, has been left with a bill of around £900 million, according to some reports.

Atlanta, which will stage the 1996 Olympics, has said its estimate has increased to US\$1.4 billion from an initial budget of US\$1.01 billion.

□ Hungary, Austria, the Czech Republic and Slovakia are planning a joint bid to host the European football championship finals in 2000 or 2004.

"We have discussed the matter with the Austrian federation and have agreed that none of the four countries could ever host such an event alone, but in cooperation we will be able to host a memorable one," an Hungarian federation official, Istvan Huszar, said.



ACROSS

- 1 Lose (6)
- 2 Netherlands (7)
- 3 Stolen car trip (7)
- 4 Prison cell (7)
- 5 German river (5)
- 6 Written text (4)
- 7 Halt (4)
- 8 Open wide (4)
- 9 Den (4)
- 10 - Flynn, film star (5)
- 11 Resawakening (7)
- 12 Booked (7)
- 13 Fretful type (7)
- 14 Accelerate (4,2)

DOWN

- 1 Greater part (8)
- 2 Hinder, thwart (6)
- 3 Cake flavouring (7)
- 4 Savoury pastry (4)
- 5 Mother, father (6)
- 6 Ibsen femme fatale play (5,6)
- 7 Judo grade (3)
- 8 Stopped (6,2)
- 9 Ship's cargo (7)
- 10 Winged dragon/serpent (6)
- 11 Revive bad memory (4,2)
- 12 Uncooked (3)
- 13 Inordinately proud (4)

SOLUTIONS TO NO 3224

ACROSS: 1 Safety 4 Lead up 9 Premium 10 Ember
11 Daze 12 Arranger 14 Cardboard city 16 Passerby
18 Well 20 Input 21 Rancous 23 Elated 24 Trilby
DOWN: 1 Sup 2 Freezer 3 Twig 5 Emeralds 6 Debut
7 Portrayal 8 Smorgasbord 11 Deceptive 13 Absentee
15 Ice cool 17 Septa 19 Burr 22 Say

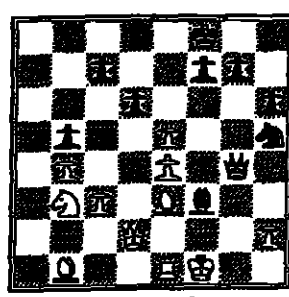
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SHIMMING MOVES

By Raymond Keene

Today I continue to celebrate The Times World Chess Championship by looking at critical positions from earlier stages of the match.

This position is a variation from the game Kasparov - Short, Times World Championship, game 3. If Kasparov had not defended accurately against Short's kingside attack in this game, this is what might have happened. Black to play.



Solution, page 44
Championship Chess, page 7

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BARDPERSONS

MARIA
a. Love's Labour's Lost
b. Measure for Measure
c. Twelfth Night

REBECK

a. Henry VI Part Three
b. Romeo and Juliet
c. Hamlet

OLD LADY

a. King Lear
b. Henry VIII
c. Macbeth

JOHN MOWBRAY DUKE OF NORFOLK

a. Henry VIII
b. Richard III
c. Henry VI Part Three

Answers on page 44



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